

The London and China Telegraph.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY ON ARRIVAL OF THE P. & O. MESSAGERIES AND PACIFIC MAILS FROM CHINA JAPAN STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, &c.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS." A WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS.

VOL. XIX.—No. 704.]

LONDON, MONDAY, FEB. 26, 1877.

[Price 9d.—Subscription, £2 2s. per annum, Postage included.]

Latest Advices.

PORTS	OUTWARD.		HOMeward.
	From London.	Arrived out.	
JAPAN—Yokohama ...	Nov. 17	Jan. 6	Jan. 11*
Yedo ...	—	—	" 6*
Osaka and Niogo ...	—	—	" 9
Hakodadi ...	—	—	" 9
Nagasaki ...	—	—	" 9
CHINA—Peking ...	—	—	Dec. 31
Tien-tsin ...	—	—	Jan. 2
Chefoo ...	—	—	" 4
New-chwang ...	—	—	" 1
Hankow ...	—	—	" 4
Kiu-kiang ...	—	—	" 4
Chin-kiang ...	—	—	" 19
Shanghai ...	" 24	" 8	" 13
Ningpo ...	—	—	" 7
Yoochow ...	—	—	" 11
Formosa ...	—	—	" 14
Amoy ...	—	—	" 15
Swatow ...	—	—	" 18
Hong Kong ...	Dec. 1	" 11	" 16
Canton ...	—	—	" 17
Macao ...	—	—	" 15
PHILIPPINES—	—	—	" 1
Manila ...	" 1	" 8	" 19
COCHIN-CHINA	—	—	" 19
Saigon ...	—	—	" 19
SIAM—Bangkok ...	—	—	" 3
BORNEO	—	—	" 13
Lahnan ...	—	—	" 19
Sarawak ...	—	—	" 17
JAVA—Batavia ...	—	—	" 14
Samaring ...	—	—	" 25
Sourabaya ...	—	—	" 27
MALACCA STRAITS—	—	—	" 25
Singapore ...	" 23	" 23	" 27
Penang ...	" 23	" 21	" 3
Ceylon—	—	—	" 1
Galle ...	—	—	" 31
Colombo ...	Jan. 5	" 31	" 1

* Via San Francisco

THE MAILS, &c.

The P. and O. mail, with the advices dated as above from China and the Straits Settlements, was delivered, via Brindisi, this morning, its due date. The advices per Occidental and Oriental Company's steamer *Belgic*, via San Francisco, bringing two days' later news from Yokohama, reached London on the 19th inst. The next inward (French) mail from Yokohama 16th, Shanghai 19th, Hong Kong 25th Jan. Singapore 1st Feb., which is due, via Marseilles, on Monday next, the 5th prox., left Suez on the 26th inst., three days early, and may be expected in London on Thursday or Friday.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

Per Occidental and Oriental steamer *Belgic*, from Hong Kong and Yokohama, arrived at San Francisco, Jan. 30.—Messrs. C. J. Gardner, John Anderson, G. W. Richardson, H. Schoening, W. H. Macomber, W. H. Taylor, G. R. Rainey, F. Low, G. Celke, Dr. Tobin, Mr. and Mrs. Hillger and child; and 189 steerage.

To Suez, per P. and O. steamer *Nizam*, arrived Feb. 18.—From Hong Kong: Signor C. Barattori, Signor J. de Vagliano, Mr. A. R. Josephs, Mr. L. C. Joseph, Mr. S. Pattison.

By this mail to Brindisi, per P. and O. steamer *Ceylon*, arrived Feb. 22.—None. To Venice, arrived Feb. 25.—None.

To Southampton, per P. and O. steamer *Bohara*, expected to arrive March 4.—From Shanghai: Mr. J. C. Frith. From Hong Kong: Mrs. Squire and child. From Galle: Hon. L. B. Clarence, wife, and family, Mr. R. Dixon.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per French steamer *Ironadny*, from Marseilles, Feb. 25.—To Yokohama: Mr. Sketch. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Beazley and two children, Mr. W. Howie, Mr. Gibson, Mr. J. M. Young, Mr. F. Laidrich, Mrs. Sille, Mr. Rouley. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Morris, Mr. R. B. Blackwell, Hon. Cecil Smith and family, Mr. Otley, Mr. Mansfield, Mr. Le Gray, Mr. Moss, Mr. Nielson, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Clark, Mr. Daller. To Saigon: Mr. James, Mr. Mirue. To Batavia: Mr. and Mrs. F. B. de la Riviere and two children, Mr. Jockes, Mr. Daniel. To Singapore: Mr. R. P. Pratt, Mr. Vitte, Mr. R. C. Wood, Mr. Hough Low, Mr. MacLuchie, Mr. Monnerville, Mr. Harris, Mr. Reyes, Mr. France, Mr. Durand. To Galle: Mr. and Mrs. Innes.

Per French steamer *SinA*, from Marseilles, March 11.—To Yokohama: Mr. De Geofroy and suite, Mr. Wolf, Mr. der Monterot. To Shanghai: Mr. J. L. Scott,

Mr. S. Marsh, Mr. and Mrs. Vapereaux, Mr. J. R. Bromley, Mr. M. P. Evans, Mr. J. Findlay, Mr. Hawes, Mr. F. S. Deacon, Mr. Ballance, Mr. B. J. Bousfield, Mr. R. Nichol, Mr. P. E. Nichol, Mrs. J. Darrien, Mr. E. Fisher, Mr. J. H. Pinckvoss, Mr. Blain, Mr. Reddie. To Hong Kong: Mr. F. S. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. F. N. May, Mr. and Mrs. Siegfried, Mr. Carl Gantzen, Mr. E. W. Mansfield, Mr. A. M. Gepp, To Batavia: Mr. A. Keyser, Mr. J. M. C. Paten, Mr. Huot. To Colombo: Mr. E. Johnstone.

Per French steamer *Meikong*, from Marseilles, March 25.—To Yokohama: Mr. Galopin. To Shanghai: Mr. Brunat, Mr. Leroix Cousins. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Hickling, Mr. F. Kock. To Batavia: Mr. W. Pells. To Singapore: Mr. F. Southy.

Per French steamer *Ara*, from Marseilles, April 8.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Aretz, Mr. Mitford, Mr. H. M. M. Gray. To Hong Kong: Mr. C. Sinclair. To Singapore: Mr. A. J. Gunn and family.

Per French steamer *Amazon*, from Marseilles, April 22.—To Batavia: Mr. and Mrs. Kruseman.

Per P. and O. steamer *Peshawar*, from Southampton, Feb. 22.—To Shanghai: Mrs. Gibson, Mr. A. Capel, and one second class passenger. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Sidford. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Hullett, Dr. and Mrs. Rowell and four second class passengers. To Penang: Mr. T. A. Brown, Mr. J. Tait. To Galle: Mr. H. R. Trafford, Mr. G. Munro, Mr. A. Urquhart, Mr. F. D. Simpson, Mr. B. R. Jagoe, Mr. E. J. Miller, Mr. Hynd, Mr. Forbes.

Per P. and O. steamer *Ceylon*, from Venice, March 2.—To Hong Kong: Mr. F. Forster. To Colombo: Mr. J. Sinclair.

Per P. and O. steamer *Ceylon*, from Brindisi, March 5.—To Penang: Major C. E. Squire.

Per P. and O. steamer *Indus*, from Southampton, March 8.—To Shanghai: Mrs. Lemarchand, Miss Robinson.

Per P. and O. steamer *Maiwa*, from Venice, March 9.—To Shanghai (via Bombay): Mr. J. Mackey.

Per P. and O. steamer *Anoa*, from Brindisi, March 19.—To Hong Kong: His Excellency Pope Hennessy, wife, and child.

Per P. and O. steamer *Kh-dise*, from Southampton, March 22.—To Singapore: Mr. J. Leishman. To Ceylon: Lieut. E. Berkley.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The present P. and O. mail brings advices from this port to the 9th January, and we have advices by the Occidental and Oriental Company's steamer *Belgic*, via San Francisco, two days later, viz., to the 11th January. The P. and O. mail from London, November 10, arrived out on the 28th December, and the following French mail of November 17 on the 6th January.

The latest reports concerning the Agrarian riots is to the effect that, although they are not serious, they appear to be almost universal throughout the country. The Government have adopted the wise measure of reducing the land-tax from 3 to 2½ per cent., and this may possibly have a pacifying effect. The native newspapers, however, deny that this step has been taken with the view of restoring peace, though the time at which this course has been adopted certainly suggests that such is the case. The *Japan Herald* states that rumours of trouble in the Kogoshima ken were prevalent, and it is as asserted that Shimadzu Saburo and the elder Saigo were about to visit Tokio, some reports saying they were to be accompanied by a large number of troops. This would appear to be the prelude to the rising of which telegraphic news was received a few days back.

The long pending "shooting regulations" question has at last been settled, and licences for the season will in future be issued by the Japanese Government at a fee of \$10. These licenses are to be accompanied by covenants, the infringement of which will render the holder liable to pay a fine. Transgressors have also been made amenable to punishment before the tribunals of their country, but Englishmen are again placed at a disadvantage, for while the other Foreign Ministers are content to abide by the punishments inflicted by the ordinary laws of their country, the English Minister, not satisfied with the severity of the English game-laws, has thought fit to promulgate a new edict for the punishment of his nationals. The *Japan Mail* in a sprightly and optimistic article on the subject commends the regulations on the whole, and rejoices that the sportsman can now go a-field with a belt of cartridges and a good cou-

science, void of all fear that he will be the cause of a war. It adds:—"The regulations will be accepted, we think, with satisfaction by all sportsmen. It is obvious that penalties must be affixed to the violation of agreements, but after all the protests recently made here against an excessively severe interpretation of laws, we doubt whether the Law-Secretary, even in his sternest and most conscientious humour, would dare to inflict a penalty of a month's imprisonment with hard labour on a delinquent arraigned under Sir Harry Parkes's notification." On the other hand, the *Herald* condemns the notification very strongly as another excess over his authority on the part of Sir Harry Parkes, similar to his notification with regard to newspapers published by British subjects in the Japanese language. It says:—

In the words of the 85th section of the Order in Council, such regulations only are contemplated as may be necessary for the "peace, order, and good government of British subjects." Considering that for upwards of fifteen years, ever since the opening of the ports, the general conduct of British subjects has not been otherwise than law-abiding, how can any special urgency for the issue of the ukase have arisen? Under the sanction of the foreign Ministers the Japanese Government could effectually prevent sporting being indulged in without a license, and those who take them out are required to enter into a covenant to observe their provisions, under a forfeiture of \$10, and the cancellation of their licenses should they commit any infraction. These regulations, plus British law, are restraints enough, it might be supposed, to satisfy the most despotically-minded of Ministers; but no—peccant Englishmen are to be made to suffer, in addition, the special pains and penalties of fine and imprisonment, which their own Consular authorities, by the grace of Sir Harry Parkes, have in store for them, should they heinously shoot, without being duly licensed in that behalf, say a sparrow, a rat, or a crow. To us the Minister's notification appears to be entirely unnecessary; the conduct of British subjects in the past has not been such as to provoke it; and it not being called for by any special circumstances of gravity, this gratuitous piece of superfluous legislation cannot be too much condemned as an unwarrantable abuse of Ministerial power.

The matter, as is natural among communities so fond of sport as those in the Far East, has attracted considerable interest and discussion. It would, however, hardly seem that the Japanese farmers are particularly ill-natured or likely to harass sportsmen very severely, seeing that in the report of the "usual New Year's day paper hunt" we read that "after a short canter along the road a turn was made into the paddy-fields." The hunt, it is added, "was a very enjoyable one, and appeared to give satisfaction to all concerned," the farmers, it is to be presumed, included.

The Report of the Japanese Postmaster-General recording the work in his department from 1st July, 1875, to 30th June, 1876, has been issued. The revenue of the department, from all sources, amounted to yen 595,201, while the total expenditure amounted to yen 713,244—an excess of about 20 per cent., a fraction of which, however, is due to the fact that the salaries of officers and other expenses of the Marine Board, which is under the direction of the Postal Department, and of other sections whose duties are not connected with the Post-office proper, are included for convenience in the accounts. It is satisfactory to observe that the actual revenue of the department exceeded the estimated revenue by yen 25,201, while the actual disbursements fell short by yen 1,000 of the estimated disbursements. Compared with the revenues of the previous year, those for the period under review show an increase of yen 146,674, or 32·7 per cent.; and, compared with the year ending 30th June, 1874, an increase of yen 302,875, or 103·6 per cent. The increase of expenditure, on the other hand, is only 20 per cent. over that of 1875, and 101·6 over that of 1874, showing that the increased work which brings augmented revenue is done at a decreasing ratio of expense. The estimated revenue for the year ending 30th June, 1877, is yen 654,517, or 10 per cent. of increase over that of last year; the estimated expenditure for the same period is yen 786,096, also showing an increase of about 10 per cent. It will be satisfactory to find hereafter that, as in the case of the past year, the actual revenue exceeds the estimated revenue, and the actual disbursements fall below the estimated disbursements.

At midnight between Saturday and Sunday, the 8th and 9th Jan., a fire broke out in a provision store kept by Mr. Antonio, on Lot 51, and was not subdued until the store with all its contents had been destroyed. Mr. Antonio, who resided on the premises, had, with his wife and children, gone to Yokoska at four o'clock on the Saturday afternoon, and shut up the house, which, during his absence, was uninhabited. The origin of the fire is as yet a mystery. The goods were insured for \$5,000.

A decoration of the First Class has been conferred by the Mikado on Mons. De Struve, the Russian Minister here.

General Saigo and the other members of the Japanese Commission to the Centennial Exhibition returned to Japan by the P.M.S. *City of Tokio* on the 26th ult.

On the 2nd Jan. an inquest was held by H.B.M.'s Consul as coroner, and Messrs. A. Jaffray, E. Powys, and Thomas Rose, jurors, on the body of the late Mr. Thomas Baker, formerly chief officer of the *Taihei Maru*, who shot himself in a Japanese house. A verdict to the effect that the deceased shot himself while in a state of insanity was returned.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

YOKOHAMA, JAN. 11.

A new rise of about \$30 has taken place in silk since the date of my last, and has been well sustained to the present, in spite of the anxiety prevailing as to the state of affairs in Europe, and the expectation which people affect, if they do not feel, of a war-like solution of pending questions to involve a power nearer home than Turkey or Russia. I am happy to say that so far there has been but little serious loss known to have been sustained in the silk market this season, if I except one house in the Continental trade, which is known to have suffered severely; but there is reason to believe that there are some minor sufferers, while unquestionably some firms have made tremendous profits.

As a piece of intelligence which is not current here, but is perfectly true, and will have an interest for many of your readers, I may mention that Mr. W. G. Howell, who has so long and with such great talent, if not always the nicest tact, conducted the *Japan Weekly Mail*, has sold the property of that paper to Mr. G. C. Pearson, by whom it will be managed. Mr. Pearson is talented and accomplished, and will be a worthy successor to Mr. Howell.

Mr. E. H. House's new paper, the *Tokio Times*, has appeared. The first number was issued on the 6th January, and contains much matter of interest. He sounds two key-notes, probably indicating the policy which will be advocated, and a result which will be striven for, the first being the adoption of protection by the Japanese Government, and the second the abolition of extra-territorial jurisdiction in Japan. I, for one, fail to see how protection can at present benefit the country, or what industries it has now, or is likely to have for some years to come at least, which need protection. Mr. House attaches great weight to the development of the iron industry in America, as testified to by Captain Galton and other English experts, visitors to the Centennial Exhibition; but as yet, even granting that protection has done all its advocates claim for it in America, there is no scope for it in Japan. Why, the Government, or rather the Mitsu Bishi Company, which is much the same thing, are sending two of their largest steamers under sail to England, there to be refitted with new engines and boilers, on the ground that after making the expensive voyage round, the cost of refitting will be less there than it would be if the work were done here! As for the other question of ex-territoriality, Mr. House may do the Japanese good service in working towards its abolition, if he will induce the Government to adopt and guarantee the just administration of such a code of laws as would be judged equitable by one of the Western Powers. For this, however, we must wait, and probably, while we are waiting, the nearest approach which can be hoped for to a national jurisdiction will be the appointment of mixed Courts; something like those which, after all, do not work so badly in the open ports of China.

HIOGO.

The *Nippon Standard* is informed by a native correspondent that the opening of the ports of Shimonoseki, in the inland sea, and Tsuruga, on the north-east coast, next year to foreign trade and residence is now under the consideration of the Government. It stated that it is proposed to have no distinct foreign settlements, though certain localities will be defined for foreign premises, and conventions to contain certain trade observances, hitherto inapplicable as between foreigners and Japanese in Japan, to be stipulated; also specified municipal rules and regulations, to be observed by foreigners resorting to, and taking up their quarters in those ports, to be maintained and enforced by the consular and other foreign Courts.

The *Hioigo News* says:—The Saigo party in Kagoshima is reported to be about 15,000 strong. It is said that they are tilling the land in peculiar dresses and practising the use of the spear and sword. They also visit Shinto temples, where they learn things and where Saigo occasionally teaches them.

OSAKA.

The *Hioigo News* correspondent gives the following items:—

A circular emanating from H.B.M.'s Consulate went the rounds of the British community yesterday. I had no time to read it through, but gathered that it was based on an official notification of the Osaka Fu, the purport of which was, that if foreigners do not wish to have their dogs killed by the police they must either keep them from straying off the Concession or affix to their necks a ticket, which is to be obtained through the Consulate, and register the same at some office in Osaka. For all this a small fee will have to be paid, amounting probably to 75 sen per annum, that being the amount of the new local poll-tax on native dogs. Now I do not suppose there are many dog-keeping foreigners who will be disposed to raise objections to this tax, if thereby they can save their canine favourites from the murderous bludgeons of the new blue-coated canicides, for 75 sen a year is not much after all to pay for a four-footed *monban*, which, as a rule, is worth any three bipeds bearing that oft-misleading designation. But the ticket—there's the rub! Who that has seen a squab fluffy Japanese puppy wearing a piece of timber half as big as itself would

consent to see his "toy terrier," or even his pointer, burthened with such a mill-stone-like appendage?

We had two fires here last week. The first occurred on Tuesday, at the Yeta village of Watanabe, and resulted in the destruction of about thirty houses, it is reported. The second, which took place on the following morning, was a smaller affair, and was confined to the burning of one or two houses in the northern outskirts of the city.

The approaches to the railway-station have been greatly improved in appearance recently by the planting of a double row of trees. The handsome new and wide approach to the new Concession bridge has also been ornamented in a like fashion.

I am very sorry to hear the report of Mr. Godai having lost \$150,000 by his indigo works. It is only within the past few weeks that the first hastily run up sheds and fences have been replaced by more substantial, though still wooden, structures, and a brick chimney-stack built.

That White Elephant of the Osaka Fu, the Osaka Museum, has shut up shop once more, but threatens, I hear, to make yet another attempt at the—for this part of the world—usual unseasonable exhibition opening time.

NAGASAKI.

The *Cosmopolitan Press* says that on the 23rd Dec. the harbour was filled to an extraordinary degree with a red slimy matter floating on the water, presenting during the day the appearance of red paint. It was said to be sardine spawn, *Iwashi uwo no ko*. The effect at night was magnificent, notwithstanding the pale moonlight, and more so when the phosphorescent glare upon the water was disturbed by a slight breeze. Such a phenomenon has not appeared for many years, and the fishermen predict an extraordinary supply of sardines for a long time to come.

CHINA.

PEKING.

The *Peking Gazette* of the 1st December contains a noteworthy memorial from the Governor-General of Hukwang, protesting against an order which looks very much as though it had been devised in the interests of the C.M.S.N. Co. Since the rebellion, the grain tax in that province has been paid in money; but the Board of Revenue has ordered a return to the old system of payment in kind. The memorialist protests that the change would involve great expense, and be a hardship to the people. He shall send the money commutation as before, this year, and requests that the Board of Revenue may be directed to reconsider the matter, as regards the future.

The same *Gazette* contains a memorial from the Viceroy of Nanking, requesting that the grain from the provinces north of the Yangtze may be sent by steamer, at any rate till the Grand Canal is cleared. We have several times called attention to the difficulties which were experienced during the past season in getting the grain junks through the Canal; and the officials concerned are evidently anxious to avoid another season of such worry. They are right so far, but it would be a thousand pities to let that magnificent water way become obliterated, and there will be danger of that result if it is altogether abandoned as a grain route.

The principle of providing public work for the sufferers from famine has been adopted in the province of Chihli. Li-Hung chang reports the construction of two canals, which will have the advantage of helping to drain and irrigate the country, and which have provided employment for a number of sufferers by the recent drought. The funds have been contributed by the gentry, for whom rewards are solicited. We congratulate the Tientsin authorities on the application of this principle, in preference to supporting the sufferers in idleness, and trust that their example will be followed.

It is noteworthy that, among other reasons for the decrease in the return for certain Customs stations in his jurisdiction, the Governor of Shantung notes the pressure of *lekin* stations on the Upper Yangtze, "which tend to drive away trade." He is speaking, of course, of trade which would normally have passed up the Grand Canal. But this is doubly hindered; choked first by excessive taxation at the outset, and impeded by the deterioration of the Canal at the close.

NEWCHWANG.

The correspondent of the *North China Herald* writes:—

The steamer *Ping-on*, the last of the season, left on the 24th Dec. There is too much ice in the river to do much, even if another steamer were to come, although at times small native boats paddle past, running considerable danger. Last year the river was frozen over early in December, but this year it has gone back to the old style—after Christmas. There is very little doing in the settlement except squaring up accounts.

A number of poor immigrants have come across from Shantung, and I fear there must be much suffering among them. In the vicinity of the port some daring attempts at burglary (generally at houses where only a lady was living) have taken place, but no harm has been done; and we may feel pretty secure as our new Commissioner, Mr. Moorhead, is making use of the Customs Guard to patrol round the settlement.

SHANGHAI.

The present mail brings advices from this port to the 12th January; the P. and O. mail from London Nov. 21 was received on the 8th January. The *North China Herald* contains the following summary of news:—

We learn on good authority that intelligence has been received to the effect that the insurrection which broke out in the south-west of Yunnan in May last, and which led to the capture by insurgent bands of the cities of Teng-yueh (Momein), Shunning, &c., was precipitated by the announcement of an intention on the part of the Provincial Government to exact from the inhabitants of the Teng-yueh district the indemnity which was demanded by Great Britain for the Margary affair. It is stated that a fine of 1,000,000 taels was talked of; and the rage of the population was vented, in the first instance, upon the *lekin* collectors, of whom a considerable number were murdered.

A special general meeting of the shareholders in the S.S.N. Co. is called for the 15th of January, to consider "an offer which has been made to the directors for the purchase of the Company's real estate, floating property, and plant, and to pass resolutions in reference thereto." Reports have been current at various times during the past year that negotiations were in progress for the sale of the Company to the "Chinese Merchants' Steamer Company," but they were disregarded as improbable. Early last week, however, the rumour was revived and assumed so much substance that shares, which had been offering at 66 a week ago, advanced gradually for a few days until they reached 76 on the 3rd Jan., and on the 4th the rate rapidly advanced to 78, 80, 82, 85, 86, and 90. Even the latter rate failed to produce sellers on the 5th, and large sales were made at rates progressing from 91 to 95. The publication on the 6th of the advertisement to which we have referred of course terminates any doubt as to the negotiations reported to have been in progress. It is generally understood that the conditions are as follow:—The purchase money for the ships, plant, and property to be Tls. 2,000,000, of which one-half will be paid within about six weeks, and the remainder by instalments extending over five years, interest at the rate of 8 per cent. being paid upon the balances in the meantime. There remains the reserve fund of something over Tls. 400,000, which, after deduction of expenses, will be available for distribution among the shareholders, and will bring the amount returnable in respect of each share up to fully par value. The Taoutai's organ, the *Sin-pao*, says the payment will be completed about April next year, and of course the Chinese will have the option of shortening the term as much as they choose. Five years, however, is the time stipulated for in the agreement.—[Subsequent telegraphic information has brought intelligence that the purchase has been completed.—Ed. L. & C. T.]

A batch of remanded prisoners were brought up for judgment before the Magistrate Chen and Mr. Davenport, at the Mixed Court, on the 8th inst., when one prisoner was released, one sent to the Chehsien to be dealt with, one left in the hands of the Mixed Court Magistrate, two sentenced to three months, two to six months, seven to eight months, two to ten months, and ten to twelve months' imprisonment, the sentences to commence running from the day in question. Eight prisoners had been released in consequence of illness, and two had effected their escape.

The Japanese Postmaster-General has established postal agencies for receiving and despatching mails, &c., at the following ports:—Chinkiang, Kiukiang, Hankow, Chefoo, Newchwang, Tientsin, Ningpo, and Foochow. The rates of postage on all mails from these ports will be the same as from the Shanghai Agency.

Two children lost their lives during the fire on the French Concession on New Year's Day. A gentleman who found one body, that of a little girl about six or seven years old, informs us that it was not at all injured by fire, and that the child would seem to have been either smothered by the smoke or by the water with which its clothes were saturated.

The following gentlemen have been elected Municipal Councillors for the ensuing year:—Messrs. G. J. W. Cowie, J. Hart, P. G. Hubbe, J. B. Irving, E. H. Lavers, E. G. Low, A. McLeod, J. F. Seaman, and C. W. Siegfried.

A fire broke out in Kiukiang-road on the 4th Jan., but was put out after four Chinese houses had been destroyed. Another broke out on the 9th in a Chinese store on the French Concession, and spreading to some adjoining godowns stored with very inflammable goods, blazed fiercely for two hours, after which the Fire Brigade got it under control.

The *Sin-pao* relates the defeat of two salt revenue cruisers, by several heavily-laden smugglers, at a place forty li to the eastward of Soochow, at an entrance to the Ta-hu. The smugglers appear to have fired some jingals into the cruisers, and caught them with their boathooks, whereupon the gullant crews breast the waves, and returned to Soochow to receive further instructions.

We understand that the first of the new Consular appointments, under the Chefoo Convention, has been made. Mr. E. C. Baber is to go to Chungking, and is making preparations for his journey.

We have another week of almost perfect weather, bright sun-

shine with just sufficient crispness in the atmosphere to make it bracing. The thermometer has ranged between 30 and 55.

Messrs. Bisset and Co. report as follows upon the Share Market:—

A large business has been done in Bank, S.S.N., and Yangtze shares, at higher rates; other stocks are quiet. H. and S. Bank: Sales are reported at 24 per cent., exch. 74, 25 per cent., exch. 75, and 27 per cent., exch. 74; at which rates a number of shares have changed hands. They are still in demand. S.S.N. Co.: A considerable number of shares have changed hands during the past fortnight, at rapidly advancing rates, in consequence of negotiations by the China Merchants S.N. Company for the purchase of the S.S.N. fleet, wharves, and plant; in which they appear to have succeeded. On the 4th January shares were sold at Tls. 85 for 31st January, and afterwards Tls. 85 cash and Tls. 88 for 31st January; while sales were made later in the day at Tls. 88 for cash, and in the evening at Tls. 90 cash. On the 5th the market opened at Tls. 91 cash, and sales were made during the day at Tls. 95. There has been little change in rates since, buyers now offering Tls. 92 ex dividend, and a sale being reported at Tls. 93. A dividend of 4 per cent., making 7 per cent. for 1876, was paid on the 8th January. Yangtze Insurance Association: These shares have advanced in sympathy with S.S.N. stock. Sales have been made at Tls. 630, 640, 650, and on the 10th January at 660, cum dividend. An interim dividend of 7½ per cent. was paid on the 10th.

The following changes in mercantile firms are announced on Dec. 31st 1876. Mr. C. A. Rees ceased to be a partner in Carter and Co.; Mr. J. T. A. Alexander ceased to be a partner in Johnston and Co.; Mr. David Reid ceased to be a partner in Reid Evans, and Co., on 30th April 1876.

The *Celestial Empire* supplies the following items of intelligence:—

One of the most remarkable events that has occurred in the history of our commercial relations with China is the announcement that negotiations are on foot for the purchase of the Shanghai Steam Navigation Company by the Chinese. The terms of the proposed transaction not having, as yet, been officially made public, we are of course not in a position to comment upon them, but may remark that the purchase-money is variously reported at Tls. 2,000,000 and Tls. 2,400,000, part of which has been already put down, the remainder to be forthcoming in instalments, between the date of purchase and April 1878, interest on the balances, meantime, being paid at the rate of 8 per cent.

A case which excited some interest has been heard at the Mixed Court, before the Chinese magistrate Chen and Mr. Spence, British Assessor. A Chinaman, named Sze A-tong, was charged by Captain Bennett, of the receiving hulk *Wellington*, with breaking open a packet of letters and making known the contents for improper purposes. It appeared from the statements made to the Court that prisoner had been employed on the hulk as a chit-boy for twelve years, his wages being \$14 a month and all found. He was given a packet of letters to take to Messrs. D. Sassoon, Sons, and Co. Some of the letters contained opium statistics of the *Wellington*. When the packet was delivered to that firm it was found to contain a letter addressed to Messrs. E. D. Sassoon and Co.; the address being in prisoner's writing—a remarkably good commercial hand. It contained a sheet of paper on which were opium statistics, also in prisoner's handwriting. These had evidently been copied from one of the letters carried by prisoner to Messrs. D. Sassoon, Sons and Co., he having unwittingly placed the copied document amongst the others. Prisoner now admitted having opened one of the letters given him by Captain Bennett and copied it: and stated that Mr. S. K. Mody, a broker, had bribed him to do so, giving him \$2 a month to supply him with such information. The representative of Messrs. D. Sassoon, Sons and Co. stated that the case was brought forward as a warning to other employees. Mr. Spence said the offence was a serious one, and prisoner was sentenced to three months' caning, and to receive 100 blows.

A subscription of more than three hundred dollars has been raised among the foreign residents of Tientsin, for the relief of the Shantung poor, and about \$700 had been already received from Peking for the same object. The disbursement of this sum is to be entrusted to members of the English Methodist Mission, who have been eye witnesses of the distress, and whose mission field in the districts of Lao Ling and Yang Hsin Hien, is in the very centre of the suffering region. A committee, consisting of the senior member of each of the four missionary societies represented in Tientsin, has also been formed, for the purpose of consulting in reference to the further need, and the best use to which any additional subscriptions may be put.

We hear on very good authority that the present Taotai of Hankow, Li, has been promoted to the post of Provincial Judge of Fu-kien. It is not known when he will leave, or who will be appointed his successor.

It is with some interest that we notice, by the *Peking Gazette*, the death of the hereditary Duke of K'ung, the lineal descendant of Confucius. The Duke was a young man when he died, only having reached the age of twenty-eight.

FOOCHOW.

The *Foochow Herald* of January 4 states that the proclamation in regard to the Yunnan outrage—assented to by the Chinese Government—has been posted in the city and suburbs.

From the above paper, we take the following:—

Residents should be on their guard against thieves—always active just before Chinese New Year. We hear of an impudent attempt at robbery of a foreign house on the night of Friday last; but fortunately the inmates were alarmed in time, and the intruders departed without booty. One of the would-be thieves, in order to avoid capture, jumped down from the second floor verandah of the house in question to the ground—a distance of about thirty feet, without sustaining any known injury.

We hear that on the 11th ult., while passing to the southward of Flat Rock, the British ship *Norman Court* struck bottom. As soon as possible, soundings were taken, giving four fathoms at the first, and seven fathoms at the second cast of the lead. Flat Rock bore by corrected compass bearings, N.N.W. distant half a mile; the tide at the time being half-ebb. Flat Rock is situated to the eastward of Matsou Island, distant from the nearest point three-quarters of a mile. According to the chart, at this distance, and on this bearing, there should have been found eighteen fathoms of water.

Ting Futai left for Taiwan-foo on Saturday last in one of the Arsenal gun-boats. The object of his Excellency's visit is, we believe, to make a searching inquiry into Formosan administration generally, and especially to investigate certain charges of corruption that have been brought against several district magistrates. We may rest assured that the delinquents will meet with as little consideration at the hands of Ting Futai as their brother culprits on the mainland have already received. As our readers are no doubt aware, Formosa forms a part, and, if report is to be credited, not the least corrupt part of this province. The high Chinese officials have an absurd dread of the climate, in which even Ting Futai is said to share; but the smaller fry have hitherto made the game pay.

The pioneer of telegraphy in China—Mr. Reynolds, of Shanghai—whose land-line between Shanghai and Woosung was destroyed by a Chinese mob in 1865, recently applied to H. M.'s Minister at Peking for compensation, under Clause 4, section 1, of the Chefoo Convention, by which the sum of Tls. 200,000 was put aside for the satisfaction of unsettled claims. Although Mr. Reynolds's claim was for the extremely moderate sum of Tls. 5,000, it was disallowed by Sir Thomas Wade.

HONG KONG.

Our advices by this mail extend to the 18th January; the French mail from London, Dec. 1, arrived out on the 11th Jan. The following items of news are from the *China Mail*:—

It was expected that H.E. Sir Arthur Kennedy would embark for Queensland about the 21st of January. One of the local papers complains of there being "a quiet self-complacency in the tone of the Queensland papers to hand by the *Singapore* relative to the anticipated advent of the new Governor"—a circumstance, however, hardly surprising before they are acquainted with him.

The postal convention between Hong Kong and Netherlands India is published in the local *Government Gazette*. The postage on direct correspondence from Hong Kong is at the rate of 12c. Hong Kong currency, for fifteen grammes, and that from Netherlands India to Hong Kong and places in China and Japan to where British post-offices are established 30c. Netherlands India currency. Post cards can be sent for 6c. Hong Kong currency or 15c. Netherlands India currency. The postage on commercial documents, patterns, &c., is 2c. Hong Kong currency for 50 grammes or fraction of 50 grammes, or 5c. Netherlands India currency. The fee for registration is 12c. Hong Kong currency and 10c. Netherlands India currency. Each office retains the postage it collects, the Postal Department of Netherlands India bearing the charge of transit on the other side of Singapore, and the Hong Kong department all charges for transit from Singapore.

A correspondent favours us with another method of manufacturing spurious dollars, in addition to those we mentioned yesterday. He says:—"To make two bad dollars by this plan three good ones are necessary. One face of each of two of the three good dollars is destroyed, being cut out, leaving the milling and a very thin face intact. Now the third good dollar has both faces sliced off, and these are fitted on to the two others which were hollowed out and filled up with lead. Of course the manufactured dollar is more bulky than a silver dollar, because of the comparative lightness of lead. There is about 25 per cent. of silver in this counterfeit. A skilful manipulator can make about twenty in one day."

The new law limiting the number of passengers to be taken by each of the Canton steamers has been strictly observed, and, to prevent any infringement of it, the captains of the different steamers have adopted the system of issuing tickets on board to intending passengers, only the limited number being issued.

The rush, therefore, to get first on board is very great, and it is necessary, after the full complement of tickets has been served out, to close the gate of the wharf to prevent the inroad of late arrivals. The closing of the gate, however, causes great inconvenience to post carriers, and several bundles of our Chinese newspapers for Canton could not be sent off for this reason; the postman arrived at the gate, but could not gain admittance. Could not the steamboat company devise some means whereby post-carriers and chit-coolies would be admitted after the gate is closed to ordinary passengers?

In the Supreme Court in Bankruptcy, on the 5th January, before Sir John Smale and Mr. Justice Snowden, a judgment of interest in connection with the failure of Augustine Heard and Co. was delivered by the Chief Justice. The salient points are as follows:—

Mr. Justice Snowden having refused a motion to examine witnesses in London made in the above matter, this appeal from that decision was argued before us on the 14th December last, and we reserved judgment. After conferring on the facts and on the arguments, we are clearly of opinion that this appeal must be dismissed. The case being quite new and surrounded with difficulties, we decided that the appeal be dismissed without costs, and that there be no costs of the original hearing. I think the petition was premature, that the China Traders' Company should have tendered to the Trustees a formal proof in some of the ways pointed out in the Ordinance, and have waited till the Trustees had refused to accept it and put it on the test of proofs. On refusal, there would be a "difference," in the terms of Section ninety-six, and then the China Traders' Company would be in a position to file a petition, and to ask an order by this Court calling on the Trustees to admit such proof; but I think that until such tender and refusal of proof, there is no such "claim, dispute or difference" between the China Traders' Company, and the Trustee as comes within the Section ninety-six, which the Court is required by that section to determine. There is not till proof tendered and refused to be received a case on which to determine. In such a petition the China Traders' Company should allege that Fearon and Co. claim to be creditors for the same amount from the estate, and they should make these parties respondent. The China Traders' Company should ask for leave to serve this petition on Fearon and Co., with a notice to answer and appear on the hearing on a day to be fixed by the Court. On the appearance of Fearon and Co., or after proof of such new petition having been duly served on them, it will be competent for the China Traders' Company to ask by motion for such commission to examine witnesses or otherwise as they may be advised.

In the case of *Sembke v. the Oriental Bank Corporation*, in which the question of which of the two parties was to bear the loss, amounting to £775, arising out of the non-payment of drafts, consequent on the failure of Messrs. Im Thurn and Co., judgment was given for the plaintiff, with costs, the Chief Justice expressing his regret that the matter had not been compromised.

A case of some interest, arising out of a charter party, has attracted some attention among the mercantile community. It appears that the American ship *Mount Washington* was chartered by Messrs. Pustau's house at Hamburg to proceed to Hong Kong, one of the conditions of the charter party being that, "in chartering the vessel outwards from Hong Kong, the captain is bound to give on equal terms charterer's correspondence the preference." The captain, however, learning by telegram, on arrival, that the owners had effected a charter for her from Ilo Ilo to Boston, could not take up charters offered by Messrs. Pustau, although on better terms. Messrs. Pustau accordingly retained \$1,000, alleging that sum to be due to them as commission, and on the matter coming before the Court, it was held there had been a breach of contract as alleged, and judgment was given in their favour.

The premises of Messrs. Lane, Crawford, and Co., at Yokohama, have been totally destroyed by fire. It appears to have originated in the adjoining premises, and both buildings were reduced to ashes before it could be subdued.

CANTON.

The Canton correspondent of the *China Mail* writes:—

The younger brother of the Tartar General at Canton has been recently promoted to be a Vice-President in the Board of War, and great has been the rejoicing in the General's household. Congratulations were pouring in from the General's admirers.

In spite of the stringent measures adopted by the Viceroy of Canton to put down gambling, it nevertheless prospers, and there have been until recently no less than some fifty establishments in existence. This was brought to the notice of the Viceroy, who at once issued an order to close them up, and caused a mark of great default to be recorded against the names of all the officials, civil and military, in whose jurisdiction the gambling houses existed.

An interesting suit as to rights of property is now going on in the Court of the Namhoi Magistrate at Canton. In the days of the Thirteen Factories there was such an institution as the "Congsoo," the Club of the Chinese Hong merchants. Since the destruction of the Factories, the site of the Congsoo has been

converted into a landing-place, built by the inhabitants in the neighbourhood. The descendants of some of the Hong merchants now seek to build houses on the wharf, claiming the ground as theirs from hereditary right. The shopkeepers on the other hand contest that the ground has been dedicated to public use.

COCHIN CHINA.

SAIGON.

The *Independant* of the 15th January says:—

The recently elected Municipal Council has already met twice. We expect to publish the reports of these sittings, and to make some observations on the questions discussed in the bosom of that Assembly, but we have not yet been able to obtain from the Council the reports of which have not been returned by the Government. It is, in fact, one of those *bizareries* of the municipal organisation of Saigon, one of the proofs of the aristocratic spirit which has presided over its creation, that this necessity for submitting for the approval of the Director of the Interior, and of the Governor should exist.

An attack has been made by a number of Chinese on Mon. Theron and some workmen under him engaged near the Pagoda of Yiau-Chao. The assailants suddenly appeared in numbers, and set upon them with stones. The King of Cambodia has promised that the culprits shall be severely punished. The *Independant*, commenting on the recent news from home, observes that the Assembly at Paris is still devoting attention to Cochin China, and, in spite of the efforts of the Minister who urged that the Colony should not be saddled with fresh dues, the old charge of two millions of francs paid by Cochin China to the metropolis has been revived, and the expenses necessitated by the stay of the French in Tonquin have also been placed to her account. These two new charges are cast upon the Colony at a moment when business is so depressed as almost to compromise the whole of the European interests in Saigon, and also when the lowering of the rate of the piastre has diminished the resources of the local budget. One cannot help thinking, in seeing the Assembly taking measures which are so very inopportune, that it is a matter for considerable regret that Cochin China has not at least one representative in the Assembly to give to the legislators information in regard to the Colony, which is at present unknown to them.

JAVA.

BATAVIA.

The *Straits Times* translates from the Batavia newspapers the subjoined items of news:—

Batavia and Samarang have again been afflicted by heavy floods. In the interior also floods have taken place, so that bridges and roads between Samarang and Cheribon have suffered great damage. In the Campongs around Samarang the floods rose to a height of from 3½ to 4 feet. At this place (Batavia) the water came down during the evening of the 5th January, and in the evening of the next day at six o'clock it reached its highest point. The rivers Chiliwong and Krokot rose at the same time with a rapidity hitherto unknown, and overflowed their banks. At several places the water was 4½ feet deep in compounds and houses. The China Camp was relieved from the pressure of the waters by the already completed portion of the Krokot Canal, but it suffered as greatly as on previous occasions, if not more so, owing to a dyke breaking down in several places and obstructing the action of the Canal in a great measure. The flood rose twenty-five inches higher than in the previous year, and ten inches more than it did during the great inundation of 1872. Many native houses have been destroyed, and the damage done is very great. The loss of three human lives, those of two Europeans and a Chinaman, had to be lamented. A soldier who was at first considered to be drowned returned afterwards to the barracks. A commission has been appointed to ascertain the losses suffered. Traffic on the railway has been somewhat interrupted, and that on the tramway was wholly stopped for a couple of days.

On the 5th Jan. an American vessel named the *Gentoo*, laden with petroleum, from New York, struck upon, and became fixed, on Neptuners Sandbank. From the look out station she could be plainly discerned. The crew at first would not leave her. The steamer *Prins Alexander*, of the N. I. S. N. Company, by means of prahus, took away from her 14,000 cases of petroleum. The ship and whatever cargo may still be on board of her are to be sold by public auction. Communication with the roadstead here has been interrupted for several days and, owing to the foul weather, several prahus have been stranded.

Official reports from Atchin represent the state of matters in Simpang Olim as very satisfactory. The headmen there had declared their readiness to elect another Rajah on condition that he should not forthwith repair to Kotta Rajah, and have brought forward one of themselves as candidate. This subject was still under consideration. The murdered Rajah of Passi is also praised, and is termed a true friend of the Netherlands Government. A

Passier who murdered him received for the crime \$1,000, or \$3,000, according to some. The Government has announced that on the 7th Jan. the blockade of Simpan Olim, East Coast of Atchin, was raised.

The Padang *Handelsblad* speaks of rumours relating to a commencement of discontent amongst the natives of the East of the Sumatran mountains, and concerning an uneasy feeling that had arisen at Padang regarding the Governor, who had been away in the interior for some time.

An embassy from Siam had arrived at Batavia to study railroad construction in Java, with an eye to railway plans for Siam.

The new postal convention with the Straits Settlements has come into operation.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

SINGAPORE.

The present P. and O. mail brings advices from this port to the 25th January; the French mail from London Dec. 15th was received on the 15th January, and the following P. and O. mail of Dec. 22 arrived out on the 23rd January. We take the following items of intelligence from the *Straits Times* :—

Notwithstanding the fact that it was announced that the sentence of death passed upon Maharajah Lela, Datu Sagor and Pandak Indut, the chiefs who were found guilty of having been implicated in the murder of Mr. Birch, and which the Secretary of State advised should not be commuted, was to have been carried out on the 13th Jan., we are without information up to this date whether the execution has taken place or not. An anxiety is felt for information upon the subject, owing to the fact that news reached us that a difficulty arose in obtaining in time the necessary signature to the death warrants of the Rajah Muda, that functionary having, from design or indifference, left on a journey some distance from Qualla Kangsa, and fears were entertained that there was no possibility of being able to reach him in time to have the execution carried out on the day fixed. The neglect in the instance may not have been the fault of the Government, though it savours of an indifference upon their part, which we think might have been avoided, and the unnecessary cruelty to the chiefs, implied in the delay, is an agony inflicted which is not consonant with that consideration to the feelings of the condemned which the system of the British laws encourages.

Nothing has transpired regarding the measures which are proposed to be taken in reference to Sultan Abdullah, who is accused of complicity in the same crime. It is unaccountable why the matter should be cloaked in so much mystery, unless the Government wish to astonish us with another grand *coup*, which in point of wisdom may surpass the late "treaty" which they encouraged and patronised among the chiefs of the nine States. In the event of negotiations in the case of Sultan Abdullah resulting in his dethronement or abdication, the Government will have to consider a very important matter, namely, who is to be his successor as the ruler of Perak, and we hope in doing so they will not be led into too much faith in the friendship which Yusuf, the Rajah Muda, professes to have for our administration, or belief in the sincerity of his actions in our behalf, and forget the character which that chief is credited with by the Malays. That he is cruel to a savage degree is undeniable; that a former ruler, obeying the wishes of the people, refused to appoint him Rajah Muda, is historical; and that unless he is considerably improved he would make an unpopular monarch is admitted by all who are judges, and have had experience of the Malay character. It would be well if the Government would weigh these considerations and avoid an embarrassment, like the previous one, in its process of king-making in Perak.

A notable instance of official apathy in that most important particular, the administration of justice, has lately been shown in the conduct of a trial for homicide, not amounting to murder, heard at the Supreme Court. The accused was a sailor, a Norwegian, belonging to an American vessel, and the evidence given by his shipmates at the Police Court showed a strong case against him; but, in the meanwhile, though the prisoner was duly committed for trial, the witnesses were allowed to depart, and their depositions were, very properly, not permitted to be taken against the accused by the judge, and from insufficiency of evidence the prisoner was acquitted. An application to detain the witnesses, who had been bound over to prosecute by the police magistrate, ought certainly to have been made, and the authorities, who were severely censured by the Court, are blamable for the gross negligence displayed. The fact is, the Inspector-General of Police, who is an able officer, and the Police Magistrates have an overwhelming amount of work continually on their hands, and the prominent failure of justice in this instance is proof conclusive that the appointment of a public prosecutor, advocated some months ago by Mr. Read in the Legislative Council, is a public necessity, and the sooner the appointment is made the better for the interests of justice and for the security of life and property.

The Malacca Land Act, which was lately passed by the Legislative Council, is still the subject of much comment in Malacca, and reflection upon its terms has not tended to allay the

feelings of dissatisfaction with which it was at first received. The impecuniosity which the colony has had to contend against for some time past, owing to the liberal advances which from time to time have been made from its funds to the native States, is proposed to be temporarily relieved by raising a loan, either here or in the London market. In the meantime the public should be placed in information as quickly as possible, by means of the publication of the annual reports, of the various details of expenditure for the past year.

The troopship *Orontes*, bringing two companies of the 74th Highlanders, arrived here since the date of our last summary, and she will leave for Mauritius and the Cape with the 10th and a portion of the 80th Regiments in a few days. The gallant 10th, now leaving us, have been associated with this Colony for some years. Taking a prominent part in the Perak campaign, they distinguished themselves in an eminent manner, while from a social point of view they have forcibly exemplified how well the bravest warriors may contribute their share to those genial gatherings and re-unions which tend to make a tropical life enjoyable. We heartily wish our gallant friends God-speed and a pleasant voyage, and we hope their repatriation after twelve years of foreign service will have all its desired effects.

We understand nothing has yet been heard of the missing boat and crew of the *Eastern Isles*, which, consisting of the chief officer and six men, were sent to Reding to procure fuel. The steamer, on her passage from Bangkok to Singapore, ran short of coals, and these men were despatched to procure wood, but never returned, and after waiting many hours the vessel proceeded as she could without them, tearing up planking, &c., for fuel, and at last reaching here considerably after date. This occurred fully a month ago, and the facts have been kept remarkably quiet, and we have not heard of any attempts having been made in the way of search for the missing men.

There was a case of small-pox on board the *Kashgar*, the homeward bound P. and O. boat from Hong Kong. We heard nothing of the vessel being placed in quarantine, but inconvenient as such a step might have been, no consideration but that of duty should prevail with the harbour and health authorities, if the quarantine law and regulations be not a farce, and the maintenance of a lazarette a waste of money. The patient, who was in the first instance attended by Dr. Bentley, on behalf of the P. and O. Company, was handed over to the care of the principal civil medical officer, and is now in an empty house in Passir Panjang-road.

The Colonial steamer *Pluto* has brought from Laroot the four convicts whose sentences of death have been commuted to penal servitude for life, and two others, under a guard composed of a company of the 80th Regiment.

Numerous robberies have been committed lately, some in go-downs and others in private houses.

The following notifications are taken from a *Government Gazette Extraordinary* :—

Colonel William Kelty McLeod, Commanding the 74th Highlanders, having arrived in the Colony, has assumed the duties of Commandant, Straits Settlements.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. William Edward Maxwell to be Acting Assistant Colonial Secretary and Clerk of Councils, in place of Mr. Arthur Knight, who has been granted leave of absence to proceed to Europe.

PENANG.

The *Penang Gazette* of 25th January announces the execution of the three Perak chiefs under sentence of death for the late Mr. Birch's murder took place on the 20th Jan. at Laroot. Lela and Pandut Indut died without incident; but not so with Datu Sagor. As the drop fell he got his hand out of the handcuff and he caught hold of the rope. The movement was, it is supposed, merely the result of muscular action as his neck was evidently broken by the fall, and his hand, when detached, dropped by his side. As we are going to press we learn that the other four prisoners whose sentences, have been commuted, are in the civil prison at Singapore, pending disposal. The Straits Government are in communication with the Home authorities, and have commended what should be done with them, as well as with Abdullah and Ismail, and hourly expect instructions by wire.

The new wharf has been completed, and vessels can now discharge and land in a couple of days, in place of weeks in the roads.

Market Reports.

(For dates see first page.)

IMPORTS.

YOKOHAMA.—The market had experienced some improvement, and a fair business had been transacted in Yarns at an advance, though prices since the New Year holidays were somewhat weaker. Shirtings continued very depressed, and it was almost impossible to effect sales of any qualities, more especially of the lower makes. Indigo Shirtings, Cotton Italians, and Black Velvets had met with more inquiry, but Turkey Reds were quite nominal. In Woollens Mousselines had reco-

vered somewhat from the previous depression, but the market closed rather weaker; Italian Cloth was fairly saleable, as were also Blankets. The slightly improved tone noted in last report had not led to any business in Metals; holders of good brands of Nail Rod Iron refused the low offers made, and dealers had confined their purchases to low class Iron imported by Chinese from Hong Kong.

CHEFOO.—Messrs. Cornabé and Co.'s Report says:—Cotton Goods: Owing to the scarcity of Sycee there has been but little business transacted, and as the roads have all been blocked up by a heavy fall of snow we can scarcely expect to see much demand for Cotton fabrics of any kind for some little time. Metals: Stocks of Iron are very light, and values are tending upwards; Lead is not enquired after.

SHANGHAI.—Business during the week had been conducted on a much smaller scale, dealers had been less willing to go on buying "for cash," in advance of probable wants, and on the other hand many importers were asking higher prices, owing to improved advices from Manchester.

HONG KONG.—The market had been almost closed during the fortnight, and the few sales effected had been made at a concession upon the prices previously ruling.

CANTON.—Prices for Lead declined slightly after date of last report, but had again become higher. Very few sales had been effected. Closing quotations were L.B., \$8.80 to \$8.85; Hole Chop and W.B., \$8.85 to \$8.90 per picul, at which rates holders were firm. Quicksilver had fallen from \$1 to \$1.50, closing quotations being \$70 to \$70.50 per picul.

MANILA.—Messrs. Smith, Bell, and Co.'s Circular says:—On the departure of last mail our Piece Goods market became more lively, and a fair amount of business has been reported at slightly firmer rates. Stocks of Plain Staples show a very considerable decrease on those held at end of December, 1875, and should prices keep up at home, we may look for improved rates here. Sales of Plain Staples for the past year show a marked increase on those of the previous year.

SINGAPORE.—The business done in Cotton Goods in the fortnight had been small, the sale of T-Cloths and White Shirtings showed an increase on the previous interval; values in some instances had slightly advanced, but importers had found it difficult to obtain higher rates in accord with the rise on the Home markets. Business had been affected by the firmness of holders, and by the near approach of the Chinese holidays.

PENANG.—During the fortnight the market had remained quiet. Holders were not pressing sales, and prices generally were unaltered.

EXPORTS.

TEA.

YOKOHAMA.—At the close of the year, the market showed some slight amount of activity, which fell off during the New Year holidays; on resumption of business transactions to a fair amount were reported, making settlements for the fortnight, about 4,500 piculs. Prices were unaltered, and arrivals being on a moderate scale, the stocks were small.

SHANGHAI.—Black: The week's business had been small, considering the large stock. Settlements had been 2,200 chests. A string of Oopacks comprised more than half of the business, though these kinds hardly showed as good value as the Oanfas settled about a fortnight before. Green.—A very moderate business had been done during the week, settlements being within 4,000 half-chests. With the very large stock on offer and the near approach of the China New Year Teamen were beginning to show signs of weakness, though they would not entertain anything like the equivalent of present London or New York rates. A few chops continued to be settled at prices showing, perhaps, some slight reduction, but still unnecessarily high. Of the 88,000 half-chests in stock, fully 75,000 were country teas, and among these are some "fine" chops, which a very little demand would suffice to clear off. There had been some inquiry for Common teas, and two or three chops had been settled. The export figures to date were favourable, showing a decrease of one and a half millions on last year's. Arrivals had reached 412,000 half-chests, but there was very little left to come.

FOOCHOW.—Messrs. Westall, Galton and Co.'s Letter says:—During the week a fair business has been passing on this market. Congou: Prices do not show any material alteration. The supply up-country is now said to be exhausted. The 2,000 chests placed on the market during the past week, were of very low and undesirable description. Sonchong, Oolong, and Flowery Pekoe: No transactions. Scented Teas: No stock.

AMOI.—Owing to the anxiety of native holders to realise before the Chinese New Year, but little leaf remained in stock, and the season was regarded as almost over. Of Formosa Oolongs, 27,600 packages had been settled principally at \$26.50 to \$39; choice leaf, however, ranging as high as \$40 to \$44. Of Amoy Oolongs, settlements comprised 771 packages, leaving about 2,800 half-chests in stock. Settlements were reported of 8,000 packages Amoy Congous, of which, 6,000 half-chests were taken at an average of \$15.50. About 14,500 remained in stock, for which holders were asking an advance of from \$1 to \$2.

CANTON.—Messrs. Deacon and Co.'s Report says:—Our Tea market has been very quiet during the fortnight, and very trifling transactions are recorded. Congous: There have been no settlements on this market; but from Macao a fair amount of shipments have gone forward. Scented Teas: There has been little disposition on the part of buyers to enter into any operations, and teamen have not yet offered any inducement by reducing their prices. Capers of common grade are the only teas that have attracted attention, and a few settlements have resulted at former rates; the bulk of the remaining stock consists of better grades, though poorly scented, and teamen are holding out for prices which are far above the ideas of foreigners. A small settlement of Pekoe is reported at about former rates; stocks are now very small. Canton Greens: The purchase of 100 boxes of Imperial is the

only business reported. The following is a summary of the fortnight's business:—Scented Capers, 1,700 boxes at Tls. 15½ to 16½ per picul; Scented Orange Pekoe, 200 boxes at Tls. 25 to 27 per picul; Imperial, 100 boxes at Tls. 18 per picul.

SILK.

YOKOHAMA.—There had been considerable disposition to operate, and prices had advanced some \$30 per picul, for the finest descriptions. The fluctuations in exchange had again much interfered with, and limited the business done. Arrivals had fallen off, and the Stock showed a further reduction, being estimated at 2,000 bales against 1,100 bales last season. Settlements 1st July to date, 18,800 bales against 10,000 bales in corresponding period last season; and 7,200 bales in 1874-75. Total export 1st July to date, 18,579 bales against 9,635 bales.

SHANGHAI.—The North China Herald Report says:—The French mail of the 5th Jan. took 833 bales of silk for Europe, the purchases including market Tsatlees at Tls. 480 to Tls. 520, and 250 bales of Re-reels, commencing at Tls. 500 per picul for common. Business this week has been confined to within 1,000 bales, and includes Koofong-sing's chop No. 3 Tsatlee at Tls. 607½; Beautiful Woman No. 2 at Tls. 542½; "Mayfong" Elephant at Tls. 540; Gold Stork at Tls. 522½; "Sa-ling" at Tls. 510; fair No. 5 Tsatlee at Tls. 500; some shipments of Hainings, Hangchows, and Yellow silks on native account; and nearly 150 bales of re-reels purchased at Tls. 490 to Tls. 525 per picul. Natives returning from up-country report the stock of Tsatlee silk almost exhausted, and although it is impossible to determine for certain how much remains unsold on this market, it appears safe to calculate on within 5,000 bales. Coarse silks generally, both by mail and wire, are not wanted in London or Lyons, and it is difficult to hazard what the ultimate destination will be of the large quantity held by the sickmen. Some are willing to part at a very reasonable margin on nominal home values, and others talk of being able to hold over a portion until the new season commences. Quite 1,000 bales of coarse and yellow silks have been returned inland, and it is necessary, therefore, to deduct that amount from my figures of "total receipts." Within 300 bales have arrived during the past fortnight, and this will, in consequence, reduce the receipts to 80,700, and the unsold stock to 18,500 bales. Re-reels have been in good demand from their comparative cheapness.

CANTON.—Messrs. Deacon & Co.'s Circular says:—The demand for this article has been of a very limited nature, and a tone of apathy has pervaded the market. The only purchases to record are 110 bales Tsatlee reel No. 4 quality has not been dealt in, but good "Kow-kong" of that class is now nominally quoted worth \$450 per picul. The season is approaching a termination, and only a trifling business can be done during the coming three months. Of Long-reels 30 piculs of common descriptions have been bought for shipment to Bombay. Re-reels have attracted less attention than during the previous fortnight, and prices have declined about \$20 per picul for most sorts. Settlements are said to be 280 boxes. Stock is computed at 1,000 bales Tsatlee, 100 bales Cumbeuck and Lucklow, 50 bales Kowkong, and about 200 bales of inferior kinds.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK—SEASON 1876-77.

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Date.	TEA.				SILK
	From Shanghai and Hankow	From Foo-chow.	From Amoy.	Total lbs.	Total Bales and Cases.
From June 1, 1876, to Jan. 3, 1877	602,679 1/4	529,556 7/8	23,447 3/4	1,155,683 1/4	39,950
From June 1, 1875, to Jan. 3, 1876	720,197 1/4	593,987 3/4	231,631	1,545,816 1/4	26,972

TO THE CONTINENT.

From June 1, 1876, to Jan. 3, 1877	...	...	...	...	Bls. & Cases.
Do. do. 1875, to Jan. 3, 1876	...	...	...	...	41,600

TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

From June 1, 1876, to Jan. 3, 1877	...	...	...	...	Bls. & Cases.
Do. do. 1875, to Jan. 3, 1876	...	...	...	...	2,283

TO AUSTRALIA.

From June 1, 1876, to Jan. 3, 1877	...	...	...	...	Bls. & Cases.
Do. do. 1875, to Jan. 3, 1876	...	...	...	...	16,045,119

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From	Tea—lbs.	Silk—bales	From	Tea—lbs.	Silk—bales
1843 to 1844	51,022,600	...	1861 to 1862	121,256,870	32,318
1845 to 1846	57,334,200	18,600	1862 to 1863	118,323,042	62,800
1846 to 1847	63,972,000	22,114	1863 to 1864	118,423,290	50,052
1847 to 1848	77,327,800	61,243	1864 to 1865	116,890,430	57,449
1848 to 1849	92,240,300	50,181	1865 to 1866	112,789,884	70,917
1849 to 1850	76,990,255	68,315	1866 to 1867	139,701,193	63,867
1850 to 1851	65,789,792	83,134	1867 to 1868	131,950,850	51,329
1851 to 1852	85,560,152	64,169	1868 to 1869	119,771,395	54,589
1852 to 1853	90,066,160	70,644	1869 to 1870	114,588,626	57,263
1853 to 1854	109,851,040	79,139	1870 to 1871	114,588,626	47,373
1854 to 1855	121,278,580	72,887	1871 to 1872	114,588,626	85,109
1855 to 1856	117,465,286	46,603	1872 to 1873	163,318,297	87,183

* Including the Continent.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

The Eastern Extension Company's Telegraph Cable between Hong Kong and Saigon is interrupted. The Great Northern Company's lines are working, but messages are occupying some time in transmission.

EXCHANGES, &c.

[For dates see first page.]

ON LONDON.

At	Bank Bills.	Credits.	Documentary.
Yokohama, 6 m.s.	4s. 2½d. to 4s. 2½d.	4s. 2½d.	4s. 2½d.
Shanghai	5s. 8½d.	5s. 8½d.	5s. 9d. to 5s. 9½d.
Canton	4s. 3½d.	4s. 3½d.	4s. 3½d.
Hong Kong	4s. 4d.	4s. 4d.	4s. 4½d.
Manila	4s. 4½d.	4s. 4½d.	4s. 5d.

MISCELLANEOUS.

	At Shanghai.	At Hong Kong.
Bills on India	Rs. 306 to 307	Rs. 230
" Hong Kong	25 to 26 dis.	7½ prem. (nominal)
Par silver	Tls. 111.2.5	8 prem. (nominal)
Mexican dollars	Tls. 75.3.75	

SHARES AT HONG KONG.

Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, 28 per cent. prem.
 Hong Kong Gas Company, \$75 per share.
 Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock, 47½ per cent. discount.
 China Traders' Insurance Company, \$1,750 per share.
 Hotel Shares, \$50 per share.
 Hong Kong and Macao Steamboat Company, 15 per cent. dis.
 Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company, \$575 per share.
 Union Insurance Society, \$610 per share.
 China Fire Insurance Company, \$174 per share (nominal).
 Chinese Insurance Company, \$200 per share.
 Shanghai Steam Navigation Company, Tls. 93 per share, ex div.
 Chinese Imperial Loan, £29 (exchange 4s. 1½d.).

* The latest telegrams report the rate for six months' bank bills at Singapore 3d., at Hong Kong 4s. 2d., at Shanghai 5s. 7½d.

SHANGHAI SHARES AND STOCKS.

	Shares.	Paid up.	Latest Qtn.	Last Divd.
Shanghai Dock Company	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	Tls. 210	20p.sh
Shanghai Gas Company	100	100	142	11 p.c.
Shanghai S.N. Company	100	100	93x.d.	7 p.c.
S. Tug and Lighter Company	850	850	600	12 p.c.
French Gas Company	50	50	70	7 p.c.
Hong K. Fire Insurance Co.	\$1,000	\$200\$ 560x.74	\$46.19p.s.	
North China Insurance Co.	Tls. 2,000	Tls. 600	875	
Yangtze Ins. Association	500	500	Tls. 622x.d.	15 p.c.
Union Insurance Society	\$2,500	\$500	\$725	
China Traders Co. (Limited)	5,000	1,500	1,580x.74	
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co.	Tls. 500	Tls. 10	5	
China Fire Insurance Co.	500	100	165x.74	12 p.c.
Hongkew Wharf Co.	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 94	5 p.c.

THE MAILS.

PRESENT INWARD MAIL.—BRINDISI, FEB. 22.—The P. and O. Company's steamer Ceylon arrived here at noon to day, with the India and China mails, which left for London at 2 P.M.

HEAVY PORTION OF PRESENT INWARD MAIL.—PORT SAID, FEB. 20.—The P. and O. Company's steamer Bokhara, for Southampton, sailed at 6 P.M., for Southampton, with the India, and China heavy mails.

NEXT INWARD MAIL.—SUZ, FEB. 20.—The Messageries Maritimes steamer Meikong, with the inward French mails from China and Japan, left here to-day for Port Said and Marseilles.

INWARD MAIL DUE MARCH 19.—GALLE, FEB. 22.—The Messageries Maritimes steamer Ava, with the inward French mails from China and Japan, left here to-day for Aden.

OUTWARD MAIL OF JAN. 5.—SHANGHAI, FEB. 19.—The P. and O. Company's steamer Travancore, with the London mails of January 5, has arrived here.

OUTWARD MAIL OF FEB. 9.—SUZ, FEB. 19.—The Messageries Maritimes steamer Djennah, from Marseilles on the 11th inst., left here to-day, for Singapore, China and Japan.

OUTWARD MAIL OF FEB. 16.—SUZ, FEB. 24.—The P. and O. steamers Sumatra and Nepal, with the outward India, China, and Australian mails, left here this morning for Bombay and Calcutta respectively.

OUTWARD MAIL OF JAN. 26.—GALLE, FEB. 20.—The Messageries Maritimes steamer Peiho, from Marseilles 28th of January, left here to-day for Singapore.

TELEGRAMS FROM THE FAR EAST.

HONG KONG MARKET REPORT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

HONG KONG, FEB. 22.—Manchester Goods quiet: 8½ Shirts \$2.35; fair medium Bengal Cotton, \$14.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

SHANGHAI, FEB. 22.—Manchester Goods quiet: 8½ lbs. Shirts Tls. 1.8.1. Silk: Market unchanged: total export to date 61,000 bales.

SHIPPING POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT IN THE TABLES.—Feb. 20, at St. Nazaire, from Samarang, John N. Gamewell; 22, at Rotterdam, from Batavia, Kortenaar; 22, at London, from Colombo, Copia (str.); 23, from Formosa, Adeline and Marianne, from Manila, Corona; 24, from Yokohama, Cathaya; 21, at Liverpool, from Rangoon, Fortuna; 20, at Hamburg, from Shanghai and London, Galatea, (str.); 19, at San Francisco, from Batavia, S. Vaughan; 23, at Boston, from Batavia, Fred. W. Carlon, 11, from Sourabaya, Charles R. Lewis; 23, at Havre from —, H. C. Sibley; 24, at Falmouth, from Batavia, Eugenie, from Hio, Whiteadder, from Samarang, Mary Edey; 26, at London, from Shanghai, Priam (str.).

DEPARTURES.—Feb. 21, from Newcastle, for Singapore, Gateshead; 19, from Hamburg, Johann Friedrich; 21, from Southampton, for Batavia, Java (str.); 22, from Liverpool, for Anjer, Lottie Warren; 25, from London, for China and Japan, Argentine (str.); 23, from Newcastle, for Singapore, Lady Hincks.

PASSED SUZ CANAL.—Feb. 22, Diomed, from Shanghai, for London. SPOKEN.—Iris, Hamburg to Hong Kong, Jan. 4, 28.14 S., 25.22 W.

CASUALTIES.—New York, Feb. 10, the Ocean Chief, arrived here from Hong Kong, reports:—Dec. 7, lat. 33.45, lon. 30.58, during a hurricane from the westward, lost two lower topsails, split storm staysail, sprung mainyard and topsail, and shipped a heavy sea, which stove in one of the boats. Hong Kong, Feb. 24, the Letty Gale, for London (general cargo), struck on Pratas and was abandoned, part of crew saved. Brest, Feb. 23, the Carrigal, three-masted schooner, 593 tons, Organ, from Cardiff for Hong Kong (coal), has put in here with star-board side stove in.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Table Bay, Jan. 27, arrived, Moss Glen, from Manila to New York.—Batavia, Feb. 24, the wreck and materials of the Ireshope have been sold, and realised £1,575. In the case of the Gaule, a bond has been given, and the cargo released. Penang, Jan. 27, the British barque Euxine, 1,341 tons, has been condemned after survey, and sold at public auction for \$5,000.

RAPID SAILING.—The new China clipper steamer Gleneagles, which sailed from Greenock on 20th inst., at 6 P.M., anchored at the Nore on the morning of the 23rd, at 1 o'clock, thus making the passage round in 55 hours.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

FAIRBAIRN—On the 14th Jan., at Hong Kong, Mrs. John Fairbairn, of a daughter.
 MILLER—On the 19th Feb., at Southleigh, Leamington, the wife of F. Rowley Miller, of a daughter.
 MOOR LYN—On the 8th Jan., at Yokohama, the wife of Walter Moorlyn, of a son.
 PADDAY—On the 13th Jan., at Penang, the wife of Alfred C. Padday, of a son.
 SCOTT—On the 16th Jan., at Penang, the wife of the Hon. Walter Scott, M.L.C., of a son.
 TITJEN—On the 27th Dec., at Kobe, Mrs. H. J. Titjen, of a daughter.
 VAUGHAN—On the 7th Jan., at Shanghai, the wife of J. Vaughan, of a son.
 WALSH—On the 27th Dec., at Kobe, Mrs. C. F. Walsh, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

WRIGHT—MACKENZIE.—On 19th Dec., at H.B.M.'s Consulate, Nagasaki, by Marcus Flowers, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul, and afterwards at the British Episcopal Church, by the Rev. Herbert Maundrell, Alexander Wright, to Helen Louisa, eldest daughter of the late Kenneth Ross Mackenzie, of Japan.

DEATHS.

BERRY—On the 4th Jan., at Kobe, of hydrocephalus, Evelyn Morse, infant daughter of Dr. J. C. and Mrs. Berry, aged 8 months.
 CARROLL—On the 28th Dec., 1876, suddenly, at Foochow, China, Charles Carroll, H. M. Vice Consul, in the 40th year of his age. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.
 HOWLAND.—On the 30th Dec., at Swatow, the wife of W. O. Howland, U.S. Consular Service.
 ROGERS.—On the 20th Dec., at Tientsin, James Rogers dredging engineer, of Wat King, Schuylers County, New York, U.S.A., aged 43 years.
 SMITH—On the 15th Jan., at Hong Kong, Lizzie, daughter of Peter Smith, shipping master, U.S. Consulate, aged 3 years.
 WOODFORD.—On the 30th Jan., at Singapore, Ada Anne Mary, the beloved wife of H. B. Woodford, aged 35 years. R.I.P.

GERMANY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HAMBURG, FEB. 22.

A new "modus" of forwarding the London morning post to Germany will probably take place during this or the next month. Letters and newspapers forwarded from London by the first train have reached Hamburg the second day in the afternoon, and thus made it impossible to be answered in time, still the same day, because being distributed too late for the commercial public, as the greater part of the offices are already shut up at the time of reception. The Imperial Post-office now advertises the public that in consequence of measures newly taken, the correspondence from London leaving for this town with the first morning train will in future be to hand early enough, as to be distributed at two o'clock the next day. Therefore not only a thorough inspection of it but also a speedy answering will be possible, and the profit for London correspondents will be the same as for our Hamburg commercial people.

I wrote to you in one of my former letters about the endeavours of some of the shareholders of the Anglo-Deutsche Bank concerning the winding up of this establishment. The board did not not concede with this intention at first, but the mentioned shareholders having pursued their way in a legal manner, the directors of the Anglo-Deutsche Bank now declare by advertisement their intention to summon the shareholders for an extraordinary meeting, after the ordinary—to take place on the 26th of this month—in order to debate the wished winding-up, thus saving the assets still in hand.

The Norddeutsche Bank has called its shareholders for the 24th of this month.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

Our Produce Market has not shown much animation during the past fortnight, and only during the last week transactions have been of

a little more extent, the bulk being made for consumption. The Money Market remains abundant.

RICE is pretty firm, and steam-hulled quality has been in good demand.

TEA remains quiet. Of first-hand parcels only 538/8 boxes Sou-chong changed owners.

COTTON.—Transactions were of limited extent, and the tendency has remained a quiet one.

SPICES.—Mace is quoted m.5 to 5.50; Nutmegs, m.5.60 to 6.20 per kilo. Cloves are more inquired for. Zanzibar quality values, m.140 to 143 per 50 kilo. Pepper flat; Singapore quality m.41 to 41½; Penang m.37 to 37½ per 50 kilo.

Exchange, London, three months, m.20.39 to 20.33.

Legal.

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE—EXCHEQUER DIVISION.

STEWART AND OTHERS V. HYDE AND OTHERS.

This was an action brought to recover a sum of £966 for goods bought and supplied by the plaintiffs to the defendants. It was alleged on behalf of the defendants that they were not liable to pay for the goods, inasmuch as they had been ordered upon the sole credit of a third person. The plaintiffs were merchants and commission agents, carrying on business at Manchester, and the defendants were merchants at Shanghai. In June, 1873, some conversation and correspondence took place between the plaintiffs, defendants, and a third person as to future arrangements for business. Considerable quantities of goods were forwarded out to Shanghai for the defendants, and sums of money in respect of them were sent by the defendants to the third person in England. The latter person subsequently to the last consignment being forwarded stopped payment, and the action was brought to recover payment in respect of those goods, which, with certain additions and deductions, amounted to £966. It was contended on behalf of the plaintiffs, that, especially by the letters of the third person, and also of the parties themselves, the goods had been purchased and sold to the defendants and the third person upon a joint venture, and that upon the failure of the latter person the former became liable. The defendants denied that any such arrangement had existed, and denied their liability, attributing the whole credit by the plaintiffs for the goods to the third person, and not to themselves.

The jury returned a verdict for the defendants, and the Lord Chief Baron remarked that he fully concurred in the verdict, as he considered throughout the trial that the whole truth, justice, and law of the case really lay with the defendants. His Lordship then gave judgment for the defendants, and allowed the plaintiffs a fortnight to move for a new trial.

Naval and Military.

The subjoined appointments of naval officers to the China Station are gazetted:—

Commander.—A. A. Chase Parr (recently promoted from the Alert for service with the Arctic expedition), to the Audacious, flagship of Vice-Admiral Ryder. Lieutenant—Edward J. P. Wade re-appointed to the Modeste, the appointment of Lieutenant John P. Pipon having been cancelled. Chief Engineer—John Boswell, to the Modeste. Midshipmen—Houston S. J. Phillips, Richard H. Peirse, C. H. T. Gimlett, of the Minotaur, and Edgar St. G. Silver, to the Charybdis. Naval Cadet—E. C. Greenway, to the Charybdis.

H.M.S. Ringdove arrived at Malta on the 19th inst. from China.

Captain B. W. Bax, of the Sylvia, and Commander R. H. Napier, of the Nassau, will retain their commands on their ships being recommissioned on the China Station.

Detachments of Royal Marines are under orders for embarkation in H.M.S. Tamar for passage to H.M.'s ships Charybdis, Hart, Modeste, Sylvia, and Nassau, on the China Station.

Captain W. A. Eardley-Wilmot, 5th Fusiliers, proceeds out to Ceylon as brigade-major, to relieve Captain W. P. Mortimer, 11th Regiment.

The *Journal Officiel* of the 17th inst. announces that by a decree dated the 28th of December last the President of the Republic has awarded a gold medal to Colonel Gordon Caulfield, of the English (Bengal) Army, for having saved a child from drowning in the port of Boulogne on the 11th of September, 1876. On the day mentioned a boy about twelve years of age was fishing on a flight of steps of the Western pier, when the swell caused by the paddle of a steamer arriving from Folkestone swept the boy off his feet and carried him some distance from the steps. A line was thrown, which the boy failed to catch, and he had already sunk twice when Colonel Caulfield, who was taking his daily walk, arrived, saw how matters stood, and, without a moment's hesitation, plunged in with all his clothes, seized the boy as he was sinking for the third time, and brought him to land. Having handed the boy to persons on the pier, the Colonel, to quote the words of a Frenchman who witnessed the affair, "shook himself like a Newfoundland dog and walked home." In half an hour the gallant Colonel, over whose head some sixty summers have passed without leaving much trace, had quietly resumed his constitutional walk on the pier.

A significant letter appears in *The Times* as to the Admiralty extravagance in naval repairs. Mr. Watt writes from Liverpool under date of the 15th inst. stating that on the previous day a paragraph appeared in *The Times* that the Admiralty paddle yacht *Enchantress* is to be

repaired at the estimated cost of hull alone of £21,000, and pointing out that an iron vessel of the same dimensions and power could be built for £30,000, and that there are dozens of our best shipbuilders who would be glad of the job. In the same journal the following announcement has subsequently been made:—"The Admiralty have given orders to the authorities at Portsmouth Dockyard to repair the yacht *Enchantress*, in which their lordships annually pay visits of inspection to the different yards. The approved estimate for repair of this yacht is £25,000, and as she cost £45,000 when new, about fifteen years since, and has had large sums expended on her repairs from time to time, much comment has been caused at Portsmouth by this proposed extravagant outlay. She is ordered to be ready for their lordships by the second week in August."

The state of recruiting, says *The Times*, is such as to justify the authorities not only in raising the standard of artillery gunners, but in reducing the maximum limit of age to twenty-five years, and stopping recruiting for the Engineers and most of the regiments of cavalry of the line. During the months of November and December nearly 8,000 recruits joined the service, making a total of over 29,000 in the course of the year. The army was altogether about 6,000 in excess of its strength at the close of 1875, and in comparison with its establishment may be said to have been complete. The cavalry, which through the early part of 1876 had been above its allotted numbers, remained so to the close; the artillery, which had been somewhat wanting in recruits, attained its full strength. Two out of three regiments of the Guards were in excess of their numbers, while the third, the Scots Fusilier Guards, greatly reduced the deficiency in its ranks. In fact, the only branch in which a comparatively few men were wanting was in the infantry of the line—strange to say.

The funeral of Captain Hugh Campbell, R.N., late commander of Her Majesty's yacht *Victoria* and *Albert*, took place at Hampton on the 19th inst. Colonel du Platt attended as representative of Her Majesty, who sent a beautiful wreath, which was placed with others upon the coffin. Eighteen men from the Royal yacht bore the coffin to the grave. Among those who attended were Prince Leiningen, Count Gleichen, Lord Charles Berosford, Admiral Sir John Commerell, and Captains Fullerton and Sullivan.

An inquiry into the action taken by the captain of Her Majesty's ship *Barracouta* in the disturbances at Samoa, which resulted in some of her crew being killed, has been held at Portsmouth. Captains Herbert (of the *Excellent*) and Wilson (of the *Thunderer*), and Commander Pearson (of the Royal yacht *Osborne*), assisted by the Deputy Judge Advocate of the Fleet, have been selected by the Admiralty to conduct this inquiry.

Lieutenant P. H. B. Salisbury, 1st Royal Cheshire Militia, has received from the Serbian War Minister, by order of Prince Milan, the gold cross of Takova, and the gold medal for distinguished bravery in the field. Mr. Salisbury served as a volunteer on the staff, and acted as aide-de-camp to General Dochteroff during a considerable part of the late campaign.

When the Navy Estimates are discussed in Parliament it is the intention of Dr. Cameron, M.P., to call attention to the unbusinesslike manner in which the arrangements for the raising of Her Majesty's Vanguard have been conducted by the Admiralty, and he will move a formal resolution on the subject.

It is announced that a committee, consisting of the Deputy Adjutant-General of Royal Marines; Mr. James, of the naval branch, Admiralty; and Mr. Welby, of the Treasury, has been appointed to examine and report upon the question of improving the position of the officers of the Royal Marines.

It is stated that, in order to induce seamen to remain in the navy after their first term of service has expired, it is intended to provide in the navy estimates for an increased rate of pay to be granted to all men who volunteer to re-engage for a second term of service.

It is feared that during the storm on the 19th inst. three artillerymen, stationed at Drake's Island, off Plymouth, were drowned. They put off from the shore in an open boat, and nothing has since been seen of them.

Captain W. T. Dooner, 108th Regiment, succeeds Captain G. J. Gibbard, 71st Highlanders, as Brigade-Major at Gibraltar. Captain Dooner served with distinction in the Ashantee campaign.

It is reported that the result of the committee, which has been sitting at the War-office is likely to be the compulsory retirement of all general officers on attaining the age of sixty-five years.

The aide-de-campship to the Queen vacated by the death of Captain R. B. Oldfield has been conferred on Captain Edward Hardinge (1863), commanding the Harwich Coastguard district.

The chaplaincy of the Tower of London has been conferred upon the Rev. E. J. Rogers, M.A., who has been for some time past chaplain to the Royal Military Asylum, Sandhurst.

The Chatham Dockyard Branch Railway was opened for traffic on the 16th inst., and a service of goods trains will now run daily between the dockyard and Chatham Station.

Captain Henry B. Woolcombe (1866) will commission the *Temeraire*. Captain Woolcombe's last ship was the *Thalia*, on the China station.

The Alert, Arctic discovery-ship, has arrived at Sheerness from Portsmouth, to be converted into a surveying-vessel.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE COMMITTEE.

The election of the second half of the Stock Exchange Committee has been held. All the old members who allowed themselves to be re-nominated have been again returned except one, and there are, therefore, ten old and three new members successful. This gives, seven new members out of a total Committee of thirty as the result of the recent agitation. Although this seems a small result, it would appear that the young men in the Stock-Exchange have so far made their

wishes felt that some revision of the rules may possibly be undertaken. The following are the names in priority according to the number of votes given to each:—Messrs. L. Harrison, I. N. Scott, P. Spurling, J. H. Daniell, G. D. Gibbs, A. Wark, W. R. Hardy, H. R. Pine, M. Flower, N. Wilkinson, T. P. Hilder, J. P. Trew, and S. Underhill. Messrs. Hilder and Trew are entirely new members. Mr. M. Flower, who through a long series of years was a member, and during some space of time was chairman of Committee, has been re-elected by a considerable majority of votes. Due testimony is thereby rendered to the work of a man whose untarnished reputation and whose long experience alike constitute a title to the respect and to the confidence of his constituents. The incident to which the resignation of the late Committee is due has a certain interest for the public, and, with other matters cognate to the Stock-Exchange, has been the subject of discussion. The change in the composition of the Governing Body having been effected, we may briefly refer to its constitution and to the causes which have led to the cry for better government, first raised outside, and at length taken up and acted upon within the Stock-Exchange. The building belongs to joint-stock proprietors, whose delegates, charged with its maintenance and repairs, are called the "Managers" of the Stock-Exchange. By them the rates of subscription paid by its members are received, the surplus income being distributed among the proprietors as a dividend upon their capital outlay. The Committee of the Stock-Exchange—an independent body, elected annually on the 25th of March by the members of the Stock-Exchange—make regulations for the government of members, and for the order of settlements and quotations; also taking cognisance of and adjudicating upon all disputes among members. Elections to the Committee were formerly made without any formality precedent to the ballot, so that a candidate might be started, and run in by a powerful clique at the last moment. By the deed of settlement recently adopted by the Joint-Stock proprietors this is no longer the case. Candidates must be proposed, and seconded some days prior to an election, and their names, with those of their proposers and seconders, publicly exhibited within the Stock-Exchange. Under the old system every member was on the alert on the day of election; under the newer system, the interest felt is chiefly prior to the nomination, and it is only on the occasion of contested elections that any great degree of activity is to be looked for. The duties of the Committee are heavy. The distinction attaching to the office of committee-man is the only reward of those who accept the post, which is unpaid. The functions of the Committee and its control of the members are well illustrated in the incident where, acting in the ordinary course of their duty, they came to a decision, justified in their judgment by the evidence brought forward. The Committee ordered a supplementary addition to the price of the shares sold, which thereby was brought up to their ascertained market value at the time of sale, censuring the dealer, who had not sufficiently acquainted himself with that market value, and censuring also the selling broker who had participated in that neglect. Some members of the Committee were opposed to the decision taken, on the ground that a buyer and a seller are compelled to come to an agreement as to price, and that their bargain is a matter of concern to themselves only. An opinion was, however, expressed that transactions outside a certain range of price, known as the "market value," of any stock or shares should not be admitted. There was, further, some disposition to press for a heavy penalty in the case in question. One member of the Committee resigned upon this point. At an election held to fill the vacancy, the member who had resigned was returned by so large a majority that the Committee, looking upon the result as a want of confidence, resigned. In addition to the agitation upon this question, other causes have been for some time past operating within the Stock-Exchange, where, owing to the great augmentation in the number of its members during late years, a certain restlessness and spirit of change have manifested themselves. The investigations of the Foreign Loan Committee, with the revelations of the manner in which schemes were worked to the detriment of the public, have been the subject of very serious discussion. There is a sense of injury to the character of its members, who urge that, with a few exceptions, they were as ignorant as the public itself of the plots laid, though in the working of them the Stock-Exchange had been made use of.

FACILITIES FOR THE INVASION OF ENGLAND.

At the Royal United Service Institution on the 16th inst., General Sir W. Codrington presiding, Major-General T. B. Collinson, R.E., delivered the second part of a lecture on the present facilities for the invasion of England and the defence thereof. He pointed out the new elements of danger to our island fortress which have arisen in the course of the last generation, and urged that no defences exist at present in Chatham or London worth mentioning. "There are," he added, "batteries to defend the access to the Thames and Medway, but on the land side Chatham is at present virtually defenceless. It offers now to the enemy the attraction of a harbour and arsenal for his operations, and an opportunity of destroying one of our newest and finest dockyards, and our only one on the North Sea; almost worth an expedition in itself. The Royal Commission of 1860 proposed to make a great strategic fortress of it, by connecting it with the Thames, and thus ensuring a communication between the north and south, and on the flank of an enemy advancing on London. But that war fever died out with Lord Palmerston, and a peaceful chill set in, under which that, among other defensive measures of the Commission, sank to rest. Some day we shall awake again, and then not only the defence of Chatham, but of London, will be the question. For a strategic fortress at Chatham would not ensure London; the British field army, if defeated between the coast and London, could not retreat to Chatham, and the garrison of that place could not be reinforced with numbers and quality enough to enable them to leave their defences. And if our field army occupied Chatham in the first instance it would enable the invader to enter London with a comparatively small force, watching Chatham with his main body, and so give him the advantage of fighting the decisive battle, with the prestige of having sacked the metropolis and destroyed Woolwich Arsenal, and with the material

guarantee of the Lord Mayor and Corporation in his camp. I don't doubt but they would be ready to sacrifice themselves for their country, but I presume, if the alternative was presented to them beforehand, they would prefer spending a few millions in preventing the enemy from entering London at all, except at a great loss and greater risk. A strategic position on the west of London, corresponding in some measure to Chatham on the east, might produce this effect, as the field army if defeated might retire behind it; but that would not save Woolwich Arsenal, and when such immense interests, both material and moral, are concerned, it would be indeed penny wise and pound foolish to hesitate on the score of such expense as is involved to make the metropolis and the arsenal secure."

OUR EXTRADITION TREATY WITH AMERICA.

Official correspondence respecting the Extradition Treaty with the United States has been laid before Parliament. Mr. Fish stated to Sir E. Thornton, on the 22nd of last June, that he considered the Treaty had been abrogated by the act of Great Britain in refusing to deliver up three fugitives, with regard to whom all the requirements of the Treaty had been performed by the United States. He argued that it would be quite sufficient that each country should engage that no surrendered criminal should be tried for a political crime. It might not be well to make such a stipulation with some other nations; but no harm could come of it between Great Britain and the United States, whose laws and feelings on the subject were so much alike. The impression left upon the mind of Sir E. Thornton by this conversation was that the United States really desired to make a new Treaty. Lord Derby accordingly, on July 15, wrote to Mr. Pierpont, the United States Minister in London, proposing that negotiations should be undertaken with that object. Mr. Pierpont, being without instructions, did not feel authorised, however, to enter upon such negotiations. Some explanations respecting the case of Lawrence having been given by Mr. Fish, correcting an error of fact into which Lord Derby had fallen, his Lordship on October 14 proposed as a temporary measure, until a new Extradition Treaty could be concluded, to put in force again the Treaty of 1842, without asking for any engagement that surrendered persons should not be tried for other than the offence for which extradition had been demanded. The United States Government on its side, the former Brent having in the interim been given up, announced on December 25 that it would also again put in force the Treaty. It had previously announced that on the surrender of Brent it would be ready to enter upon the negotiations for a new Treaty.

THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The anniversary meeting of the Fellows and members of this Society was held on the 16th inst., at Burlington House, Piccadilly; Dr. Duncan, the president, occupying the chair. The Secretary read the annual report of the Society, which congratulated the members on the success attending their efforts during the year. The total number of Fellows now, including foreign members, &c., was 1,350 at the end of 1875, and 1,377 at the end of last year. The Society was financially in a very satisfactory condition. The total receipts for the year were £2,799 4s. 8d., total expenditure £2,651 18s. 10d., showing an excess of income over expenditure of £147 15s. 10d. Dr. Bartlett had left £500 to be devoted to the advancement of science. The Society had awarded the Woollaston Medal to Robert Murray, C.E., in recognition of his long and important labours in investigating the phenomena of earthquakes and volcanoes; the institution medal, with ten guineas, to the Rev. W. B. Clarke of Sydney, New South Wales, for labours in surveying and describing the lower strata of the Geology of Australia. The Lyall medal, with twenty guineas, to James Hector, F.R.S., and the Bigsby medal to M. O. C. Marsh, both for labours in connection with the science of geology. Professor Hughes moved, and Mr. Newton seconded, the adoption of the report, which was agreed to unanimously. The various prize-takers were then called up, and the prizes handed to them by the President, with a short and appropriate address. Each recipient responded, and after the transaction of some other business the meeting terminated.

THE OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE PRIME MINISTER.

The principal Reception-room of the Prime Minister in Downing-street has—says the *Athenæum*—been suitably decorated and furnished. The state of squalor into which the residence has been allowed to fall is a disgrace to the country; and it is altogether incredible that a succession of Prime Ministers should have so long tolerated such a reception-room as this was before its transformation with its whitewashed ceiling and "flowery pattern" paper and carpet and inevitable graining, and calendered chintzes covering rickety slop furniture—and public-house lights and spittoons. All this is changed now. The old dismal and dirty rubbish has been swept away, and in its place have been substituted decorations and furniture which are at once consistent, and harmonious, and scholarly throughout. The panelled walls have been painted of a dead creamy white, with rich silken stuff hung in the larger panels, while in the smaller several most interesting historical portraits have been introduced, the panels forming a frame, in perfect harmony with the architectural features of the room, round each picture. These portraits are of Sir Robert Walpole, in the place of honour, over the mantel-piece; Sir John Lowther, the first Commissioner of the Treasury, 1690; the Earl of Godolphin; Henry Booth, Lord Delamere, 1690 (the Earl of Warrington?—Chancellor of the Exchequer to William the Third); Richard Watson, first Earl of Portland; and the Right Hon. Spencer Perceval. The floor is of parquet, on which is laid a Persian carpet, of Teheran, forming a good base for the furniture, which is all of a light and easily moved kind.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE.

Fresh outbreaks of rinderpest are announced; and that scourge on the present occasion threatens to follow the same desolating course which it took when it visited this country eleven years ago. In 1865 the cattle plague first indicated its presence in England by attacking a dairy in Barnsbury. It soon spread in various counties, many of them apparently isolated from each other as regards cattle traffic, and fell with extreme severity upon Cheshire, Lancashire and Yorkshire.

Despite the diligence of Mr. Forster, then Vice-President of the Privy Council Department, in the slaughter of diseased animals, the stringent prohibition of cattle on foot along public roads, and the quarantine imposed on foreign stock, the landing of which was restricted for a time to certain ports, official returns show that during the twelve months from June, 1865, to June, 1866, 248,965 beasts were attacked, 80,597 were killed, 124,187 died, and only 32,989 recovered. Probably the extensive opportunities which this appalling havoc afforded scientific experts, Government officials, and graziers in dealing with the plague at that period have not been thrown away, and that we may now succeed not only in confining the disease within a narrow area, but in promptly stamping it out. The plague has again made its appearance within the last fortnight in London, on a dairy farm in Hackney Wick, and since at Stratford, as well as in several parts of Essex and Yorkshire. An Order in Council has just been issued containing prohibitory directions respecting the sale, exhibition, and movement of cattle within the East Riding of Yorkshire and the boroughs of Beverley, Hedon, Kingston-upon-Hull, and York. In Hull the plague is of so menacing a character that the Town Council has deemed it necessary to close the cattle market, and animals brought to the weekly fat stock auction sales are not for the present permitted to be removed alive. The hardship inflicted on the commercial interests of the latter port by the regulations of the Privy Council is unquestionably severe; but in view of the momentous issues at stake we do not see that, as the Lord President stated to the Hull deputation who waited upon him, he can equitably make any exception in applying the rules laid down by Parliament for the guidance of his department. In Cheshire the Chief Constable has issued instructions for immediate slaughter in all cases of discovered infection, and for the isolation of any district in which symptoms of the plague may be detected. The magistrates of Bedfordshire have decided that no cattle whatsoever shall enter that county during the continuance of the epidemic, and have memorialised the Privy Council to enforce the slaughtering of all foreign cattle at the ports of disembarkation. A special Council meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society has also been held, at which rigorous methods for grappling with the disease were proposed; and from the agitation prevailing among those directly or indirectly interested in the cattle traffic may be inferred the gravity of the danger which is portended. The German Government has taken alarm at the progress which the pestilence is making within its borders, and the transportation of cattle in Germany has of late been suspended in consequence.

PORTUGAL AND THE SLAVE TRADE.—A correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* writes as follows:—At a recent sitting of the Chamber of Deputies at Lisbon a certain Senhor Teixeira de Vasconcellos put a question to the Colonial Minister respecting the alleged encouragement of the slave-trade by the Portuguese authorities in Africa, and the charges of corruption so freely made by English travellers and missionaries against the Portuguese officials on the east and west coasts. The Minister, thus interrogated, replied that the accusations made by Captain Cameron in England, and by Lieutenant Young in addressing the Chamber of Commerce at Cape Town, were unfounded, and he concluded by recounting in eloquent terms the good that had been done by the Portuguese in Africa, adding that he would next day lay before the House evidence showing that the services rendered in the abolition of slavery were acknowledged by the British Government. I hope to see this evidence. It cannot fail to be of interest to thousands now under the impression that Portugal encourages the perpetration of the slave-trade in Africa and that this is done by means of colonial officials who are reported to have little else to look to for the means of support. Right or wrong, there is a general belief that their chief occupation on a long line of coast and rivers both east and west is to shut out traders willing to promote a more legitimate trade in the interior. And a good deal has been heard of the Macao coolie-traffic, one of the worst forms of disguised slave-dealing, and there have been many indignant bursts of patriotic eloquence on this subject also in the Chamber of Deputies at Lisbon, utterly repudiating complicity with such evil doings.

THE "GREAT EASTERN."—The annual meeting of the Great Eastern Steamship Company has been held. The report stated that the *Great Eastern* was on the gridiron in the Millford Docks, and was undergoing repair, towards the cost of which the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company had paid £8,500. Several proposals had been received for the employment of the ship, but all the proposals necessitated a greater risk upon the company than the board felt justified in incurring. The accounts showed a balance to the credit of revenue account of £8,347, but the directors could not recommend the payment of a dividend until the ship was employed. The report was adopted, and it was resolved "That the directors be requested to obtain rough estimates with a view of providing the ship with boilers and engines of the most approved construction, and report to a future meeting of shareholders to be held at an early date, with a scheme for raising the necessary funds."

A MEETING to further the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the introduction of the art of printing into England, by William Caxton, was held on Saturday, under the presidency of Dean Stanley, at Westminster Abbey, and it was resolved that the appropriate form for the celebration to assume is that of a loan collection of the works of Caxton, and of other antiquities, appliances, &c., connected with the art; and that the offer by the company of the use of Stationers' Hall for the purpose be accepted. Amongst the speakers were Earl Stanhope, the American and Belgian Ministers, Lord Hatherley, the Rev. Dr. Stoughton, Sir Charles Reed, and Mr. Theodore Martin.

THE statistics of the grape harvest for 1876 show, as was expected from the ravages of the phylloxera and the late frosts of last year, a great diminution compared with those of 1875. The production of last year amounted to forty-three million hectolitres, against eighty-three million hectolitres, the amount registered in 1875—that is, a decrease of fifty per cent. If to these unfavourable returns are added the poor beetroot crop of last year, also fifty per cent. less than that of 1875, and

the present silk crisis in Lyons, one might have expected (says a Paris correspondent) much greater suffering in France than there as yet appears to be.

EMIGRATION has commenced betwixt New York and New South Wales. On the 3rd inst. ninety-nine sailed, and another party will be sent out in a month. They go out under an arrangement with the Government of that colony. The agents of the colony, as soon as they published notification of their desire to forward emigrants, had a multitude of applications, and consequently could pick their people. The emigrants pay one-half of their passage money, the Colonial Government the balance, and the Government also promises to find them employment.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London, Feb. 18, Benarty (str.); Galley of Lorne (str.), from Cardiff, A. W. Weston.

At SHANGHAI.—From London, Feb. 17, Cyphreus (str.); from Liverpool, Patroclus (str.).

At HONG KONG.—From Cardiff, Jan. 14, Friedrich; from London, Feb. 19, Cairnsmuir (str.); 25, Glamorganshire.

At MANILA.—From Liverpool, Jan. 8, Leon (str.); from San Francisco, 2, Erickson; from Hamburg, Feb. 19, Valparaiso.

At SAMARANG.—From Amsterdam, Feb. 10, Noordzee Kanaal; 14, Skiddow.

At SOERABAYA.—From Rotterdam, Jan. 7, Kanagawa.

At SINGAPORE.—From London, Feb. 17, State of Louisiana (str.); from Liverpool, Flintshire; 21, Cadiz (str.); from Glasgow, Star of the East; from Newcastle, 17, Rosenberg, Peter, Moltke; from Hamburg, Malvina.

DEPARTURES.

From HONG KONG.—For London, Jan. 13, Hants County; for Callao, 14, J. H. Love; for San Francisco, 13, Tokatea.

From MANILA.—For London, Jan. 10, Delia; for Liverpool, 2, Columba; for New York, Rebecca; 9, Otto; for Boston (U.S.), 2, Edward May.

From BANGKOK.—For Marseilles, Dec. 6, Gasiena.

From SINGAPORE.—For London, Jan. 15, Hermann; 18, R. C. Rickmers; 19, Laurens Coster; 24, Riflemen; for New York, 15, August Frederick; 16, Androklos, for London, Feb. 19, Glenroy (str.).

From PENANG.—For Nieuwe Diep, Feb. 19, Prins van Orange (str.).

VESSELS LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For New York, Charles L. Pearson.

At SHANGHAI.—For London, Norman Court, Letty Gales, Raymond.

At HONG KONG.—For London, England's Glory, Vanadis; for New York, Madame Demorest, Unanima, Cutwater.

At MANILA.—For London, Fire Queen, Lodore; for Liverpool, Onesta, Kirkland; for Channel f.o., Ziba, Armida, Panama, Petunia; for Boston (U.S.), Midnight, Mindora, for San Francisco, Samos, Harriet N. Carleton.

At CEBU.—For London, Varuna, Johann Smidt.

At ILO ILO.—For Channel, f.o., William Fruing; for Boston, C. O. Whitmore; for New York or Boston, Mabel.

At BANGKOK.—For Marseilles, Aldebaran, East Lomond.

At SINGAPORE.—For London, Asterope, Larnax, Lennox Castle, Mercur; for Marseilles, Ricca Genova.

At PENANG.—For London, Titania, Autje; for Falmouth, f.o., Web. foot.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

From YOKOHAMA.—To London by steamer, silk, \$4.50 per bale; tea, £3 17s. 6d. per ton of 40 cubic feet. To New York, sailing vessel, £2 per ton.

From HONG KONG.—To Channel, f.o., £3 2s. 6d. per 20 cwt.

From MANILA.—To Channel, f.o., full cargo of dry sugar, £3 per ton; to Liverpool, sugar, £3 5s.; hemp, £4 10s. per ton.

From CEBU.—To London, sugar, £3 5s.; hemp, £4 5s. per ton.

From ILO ILO.—To New York, full cargo of sugar, \$12½ per ton.

From BANGKOK.—To Marseilles, Teiseed, £3 17s. 6d. per 20 cwt.

From SINGAPORE.—To London, by sailing vessel, dead weight, £3 5s.; light freight, £3 12s. 6d.; to Liverpool, dead weight, £3 2s. 6d.; pepper, £3 10s. cube; Gambia, £4 per ton. To New York, dead weight, £3; light freight, £3 10s.

From PENANG.—To London, by sailing vessel, bag sugar, £2 15s.; light freight, £3 10s.; hides, £4 2s. 6d. per ton; by steamer, bag sugar £4; white pepper and coffee, and £4 10s.; tin, £1 15s. To Amsterdam tobacco, £4.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

Date.	Ship.	From	To
Dec. 25	Hengist	Manila	New York
" 29	D. Dubrovaski	Singapore	London
" 31	Thyatira	Anoy	New York
Jan. 2	Obed Baxter	Manila	Do.
"	Chocorua	New York	Samarang
" 6	Solid	Newcastle	Penang
" 7	Kandanghauer II.	Newcastle	Sourabaya
" 8	Borealis	Shanghai	London
" 10	Beemah	Hong Kong	New York
"	Jantic	Batavia	America

WE understand that in consequence of the uncertain aspect of the Eastern question and its bearing upon Russia the Russian Steam Navigation Company have decided not to despatch any steamers this season to or from China and Odessa.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON: MONDAY, FEB. 26, 1877.

"WHAT WE ARE DOING IN CHINA."

A SOMEWHAT noticeable article—which is reproduced in another column—appears in the *Pall Mall Gazette* of the 22nd inst., under the above heading. It is remarkable at once for the intimate acquaintance which it displays with affairs in China, and the strong prejudice of which it gives evidence against the mercantile classes and against the missionaries. Its general tone, and its effect, if not its object, is to place in a prominent light the difficulties which have to be contended against in dealing with the officials in China, and the small amount of good which has as yet been accomplished by our intercourse with that country. In a word, it throws cold water upon Sir THOMAS WADE'S negotiations, and upon the Chinese Embassy just arrived in London. Starting with a quotation from one of the despatches of Sir THOMAS WADE in the last published China Blue-book, to the effect that the anti-foreign feeling is still very strong, the writer complains that the foreign Ministers have never united to carry out a dignified policy, and have always been pulling different ways, so that the Chinese have been able to hold their own, and to maintain their pretensions as being raised above all the other nations in the world. The writer goes on to say:—"Meanwhile, 'the foreign merchants, in addition to flooding the country with loaded Manchester goods and opium, have succeeded by craft in saddling the Government with a railway; and in the interior the Roman Catholic missionaries are keeping the Mandarins in a chronic state of disquiet by their assumption of the titles and paraphernalia of office. What wonder, then, that the educated classes are 'as violently anti-foreign as ever?' There is just enough of truth in the above statements to make them of the most dangerous character. The Government bought the railway alluded to entirely of its free will, and the 'loading' of Manchester goods is a practice of questionable commercial morality, but certainly of no political importance. The opium grievance and the difficulties as to Catholic missionaries in the interior no doubt both exist; but they are old standing difficulties which it is impossible to get over entirely, and with regard to which foreign nations have certainly done their best to treat the Chinese as fairly and as considerately as is possible.

The curious part of the matter is that, notwithstanding this hard hitting at the opium trade and the missions—strongly suggestive, by the way, of the remark made by Prince KUNG to Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK to "take away 'his opium and his missionaries'"—the writer advocates the adoption of a very strong attitude in the present negotiations which he says are being made to "forego our full demands for the murder of Mr. MARGARY, and to concede that crime for a few mercantile advantages." It is not to be denied that there is some danger of the negotiations resulting in this manner; and we were among the first to sound a note of warning against this contingency; but it is clearly going too far to say such is the actual fact, before the full account of the negotiations is published, and before we are in possession of Sir THOMAS WADE'S explanations with regard to them. We have certainly never been disposed to advocate a vacillating or yielding policy in dealing with the Chinese Government, and in regard to the MARGARY difficulty have expressed our regret at the failure

of a great part of the attempts made to obtain satisfactory redress; but it is at once unwise and ungracious at the present moment, before either our own Minister or the Chinese Ambassador has been heard, or rather when in point of fact they are being heard at the Foreign-office, to assume that no explanation of the weak parts of the Convention will be forthcoming. We prefer to believe that these points will be fully and adequately explained, and when we find they are not will consider it time to write in the style of the present article in the *Pall Mall*—which is as remarkable for its strong bias against Sir THOMAS WADE as the articles in that paper hitherto have been for their bias in favour of the Minister in China. What is stated in the article may be some excuse for the failure of Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK'S Convention of 1869; but in the present state of the information on the subject does not certainly form a sufficient ground for condemning that of Sir THOMAS WADE.

THE SHANGHAI POLYTECHNIC.

WE are glad to learn that some progress, though far less than could be wished, or than would doubtless be attained were more energy thrown into the matter in China, is being made with regard to the above institution. Messrs. BOURNE and Co., of Mark-lane, the agents in London, have been doing their utmost in its interests, and an influential Committee has been formed, consisting of Sir JAMES MACDONALD STEPHENSON, Sir JOHN DAVIS, General Sir JAMES ALEXANDER, Sir JOSHUA WHITWORTH, Mr. GEORGE TURNBULL, C.E., and Mr. CLEVERLY, C.E., formerly Surveyor-General at Hong Kong, with the Hon. Mr. LAWRENCE as Secretary. Messrs. BOURNE have also procured some very curious specimens of chinaware, which are to be sent out. They consist of some excellent picture-porcelain of Minton's; some wonderfully life-like porcelain pug-dogs, and some porcelain flowers of very delicate manufacture from Paris. All these objects will, undoubtedly, be of very great interest to the Chinese; and if only the work can be kept going in the same manner as it has been commenced, there can be no question as to the success which would attend the scheme. Unfortunately, however, there is, as has been too frequently the case in similar matters, a great want of energy in China. It is no use to have well disposed and active members, this side if there is a lack of energy in Shanghai itself; and the effects of the *vis inertiae*, there are beginning to be felt somewhat severely. What seems mainly to be wanted is that there should be some one there whose sole business it should be to attend to this matter; who would be willing to push it on, and to do all in his power to secure its success. So much attention as this could not very probably be secured without payment, but some steps should be taken to make it possible to start the matter, and when it was once set going, it would probably be found by no means so difficult as at present to obtain the funds required. Something in this direction ought to be done; and indeed it would be well if arrangements could be made in China to have some one conversant with business of this nature, sent out from home. In a matter of this kind as well as in others, it is extremely desirable to have the services of some one who knows his business; and it is to be hoped that something may be done to secure this necessary element. At all events, if Shanghai desires that the Polytechnic shall succeed, it must rouse itself up and at least take such action as will enable the Committee and others here who are interested in the project, to follow in its wake. The initiative must be in China, however much those at home may be able to further matters when once they are set properly moving; and from what we know of the feeling among many here who have been to China, and others who are interested in extending our relations with that country, we can confidently predict full support on this side if sufficient energy be infused into the matter in China. Of the advantages of such a scheme both to foreigners and Chinese there can be no doubt. There are a great many objects of European manufacture which would greatly raise the ideas of the Chinese of our arts and civilisation which are not suitable for trade; and on the other hand there are many things which we do not at present know to be required by the Chinese which would be discovered to be acceptable so soon as they were aware they could be procured. Thus

the Polytechnic would become advantageous alike to the general cause of civilisation and to commerce; and when once it was fairly set on foot there can be no doubt it would be equally supported by those who have the welfare of China and the improvement of our relations with her at heart, and those who are immediately interested in furthering trade between China and foreign countries.

SALES TO ARRIVE.

THE *Japan Herald*, in an article headed "Three Sample Cases," adopts a very peculiar view with reference to the decision arrived at by the Japanese Court in regard to a matter which seems to be of the simplest possible character. It appears that a foreign firm sold, by sample, to a Japanese merchant two shipments of velvets, but when the goods arrived the buyer declared they were not according to sample. This point was referred to arbitration, and, in consideration of a "slight difference in the shade of colour of the newly-arrived goods," the seller's arbitrator proposed a reduction of 25 cents per piece, but the arbitrators on the buyer's side would consent to nothing but a cancelling of the contract. The case accordingly came before the Japanese Court, who upon these facts decided that "the proposition of a reduction in price made by the plaintiff's own expert proved that the goods were not equal to sample, and the plaintiff had no right to force the defendant to take delivery of the goods." To this decision the *Herald* takes exception, but we think wrongly. A great deal of irrelevant detail was interlarded into the case, but the above is an exact statement of it upon its merits. It is true that the market had fallen some 90 cents since the sale was effected; but though this might make it reasonable to scrutinise narrowly the grounds upon which the defendant refused to accept the goods, it could not alter his rights on the facts being clearly established. A "slight difference in shade" in manufactured goods may be quite sufficient to make them unsaleable, and in such articles a rigid adherence to sample may be justifiably looked for. The decision, therefore, of the Japanese Court seems to us perfectly reasonable, and we can scarcely understand how anyone, looking at the subject in an impartial manner, can have seen grounds to call it in question; and it seems to us the more unreasonable to have done so seeing that only a short time before decision was given against the defendant in a precisely similar case upon the ground that the goods offered were declared by the proper expert to be in accordance with the sample. The real moral to be drawn from the case is that if the goods do not agree with the samples the importers should not attempt to force them on the buyer. It is of the highest importance in these days of competition to comply with the terms and conditions of contracts.

A CHINESE NAVY.

As will be seen by the account given elsewhere, two new vessels, the *Gamma* and *Delta*, have just been constructed for the Chinese Government, and will be shortly despatched to China. Our Foochow contemporary was, therefore, in error in imagining that the predecessors of these two vessels, the *Alpha* and *Beta*, would be the Alpha and Omega of a new extravagance on the part of the Chinese; but it will be interesting to note in what manner these new arms are worked. According to the accounts in the China papers, the English crews of the vessels already arrived were discharged in China, and it appears that the idea is to man and work the gun-boats entirely by Chinese. If they are to be used, as, no doubt, will be the case at times, in the suppression of internal disorders, it will clearly be essential that the officers and crews be Chinese; or, at all events, that they be not Englishmen, as British subjects taking part in such proceedings will render themselves subject to fine and deportation under the Order in Council. This point has long been discussed in reference to the English commanders of so-called revenue cruisers in China; but as these vessels have been regarded rather as part of a quasi police and protective service than as vessels of war in the strict sense of the term, the question has not been seriously raised. It, however, assumes a totally different aspect now that China is avowedly and undisguisedly obtaining a navy, and it is clear that it will be necessary to

prevent British subjects getting mixed up in any of the operations—at times unfortunately of a very questionable character—which are taken by the Chinese to suppress risings at different places on the coast where the services of gunboats can be called into requisition.

WE note by the last Japan papers that the new shooting regulations have at last been agreed upon, and are glad to be able to state that the long-vexed question with regard to the fines to be levied under them seems likely to be settled satisfactorily. We learn upon good authority that there is every prospect of the difficulty being adjusted on the basis of an agreement to pay to the Japanese Government a fixed fine for any violation of the Game-laws, on conviction of the offender before his own Court. We trust that this settlement, which seems equitable and reasonable, and does not in any way invade the independence of the Courts under the extraterritoriality clauses, will, in due course, be arrived at.

SIR JOHN DAVIS, who, as our readers are aware, was one of the earliest of our representatives in China, having been attached to Lord AMHERST'S Embassy in 1816, and having been the first Governor of Hong Kong after the conclusion of the Nankin Treaty of 1842, namely, from 1844 to 1848, has, we are glad to learn, founded a scholarship of £50, tenable for two years, for the encouragement of the study of the Chinese language at Oxford. We trust that this will be a first step towards turning to practical use the recently-established Professorship of Chinese at that University; and should very much like to see the Government following in the same direction.

IN the House of Commons on the 19th inst. Mr. STEWART asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs when the remainder of the papers connected with the expedition to Yunnan, including Mr. GROSVENOR'S report, and also any papers on the recent convention between Sir THOMAS WADE and the Chinese Government, would be laid upon the table. Mr. BOURKE promised that they should be ready in a few days.

WE understand that the Government of the Cape Colonies have decided to abandon the introduction of Chinese labourers, on the ground of expense. We believe the matter was in the hands of Messrs. GOODLIFFE and SMART at the Cape, and Dr. DENNYS at Hong Kong, and it is to be regretted that the matter did not at least have a trial, as we think it might have resulted very favourably to both the Cape Colonies and China.

THE Berlin correspondent of the *Morning Post* states in a telegram dated the 22nd inst., that the Japanese Government has applied to Germany for leave to place some youths on board the German men-of-war, while stationed in Asiatic waters, as naval cadets, in order that they may receive efficient naval training. A step of this kind was some time back understood to be in contemplation.

SIGNOR BARBOLANI, Grand Officer of the Orders of St. Maurice and Lazar and of the Crown of Italy, has been appointed Italian Minister in Japan. Signor BARBOLANI was appointed in 1869 Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the King of ITALY at the Court of St. Petersburg.

H.E. MR. POPE HENNESSY, the new Governor of Hong Kong, will leave for that Colony by the P. and O. mail of March 16th; and Mons. DE GEOFFROY, French Minister to Japan, will leave per M. M. steamer *Sindh*, from Marseilles, on the 11th March.

LATEST advices from the United States state that the Senate has voted the annual mail subsidy of \$500,000 for the China and Japan service of the Pacific Mail steamers.

THE appointment of Mr. JOHN McNEILE PRICE, Surveyor-General, to be a member of the Legislative and Executive Councils of Hong Kong is gazetted.

THE NEW GUNBOATS FOR THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

As stated in our last issue, the two new gunboats which have been built for the Chinese Government by Messrs. Mitchell, at their works on the Tyne, were on Saturday last inspected by his Excellency Kuo Ta-jên, the Chinese Envoy Extraordinary, accompanied by Li Ta-jên, secretary, Mr. Teh Ming, interpreter, Dr. Macartney, English secretary, who, with their suite of attendants, left the Waterloo Station of the London and South-Western Railway by special train, under the immediate charge of Mr. Weston, for the purpose of inspecting the vessels previous to their sailing for China. The visit was essentially a private one, but a select party of gentlemen had been invited to meet his Excellency, among whom were Admiral Houston Stewart, Controller of the Navy; Admiral Boys, Director of Naval Ordnance; Captain Hall, R.N.; Marquis de la Ferrouays, French Military Attaché; M. Borel de Bretigel, French Naval Attaché; Capt. Labrano, Italian Naval Attaché; Baron Sparn, Austrian Naval Attaché; Lord Elphinstone, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. W. H. Russell, Mr. Twynam, Mr. Hughes, and Mr. Wellesley, of the Chinese Customs Service; Major Duncan, R.E.; Mr. George Rendel, Captain Noble, and Mr. Stuart Rendel, of the Elswick firm; Mr. Mitchell, and Dr. Macrae. The special train reached Portsmouth about one o'clock, and drew up at the platform of the Harbour Station, where the party were joined by Mr. J. D. Campbell, the responsible agent of the Chinese Government in this country; Captain Herbert, of the Excellent, gunnery ship; Mr. McCheane, the Russian Vice-Consul; Mr. F. Tallack, a few ladies, &c. Awaiting the arrival of the train were a steam pinnace and a gig, by means of which the party were conveyed to the Fire Queen, the yacht of the Commander-in-Chief, where they were courteously received by Staff-Commander Pounds. As soon as all were on board, the yacht steamed out to Spithead, where the party were divided, the Envoy and his suite and the principal visitors embarking in the Gamma, Commander Lang, and the remainder in the Delta, Commander Ching. These curious little craft were at the time flying the red ensign at the peak, and had their names, and "Newcastle," their place of hail, painted on their sterns after the manner of a steam collier. No sooner, however, had the party scrambled up the accommodation ladders, than yellow dragon flags were run up to the top of the mainmast, and they steamed slowly out to sea for gun practice.

The Gamma and Delta belong to a series of four unarmoured gunboats which Mr. Campbell, the Agent in London of the Imperial Chinese Customs, was authorised to procure in England. The gunboats now being sent out are developments of the Staunch principle of mounting a heavy gun in a small vessel specially adapted for its reception; but while the Alpha and Beta carry a 27½-ton gun, the Gamma and the Delta are each armed with a 38-ton gun, having a calibre of 12½ in. and an initial velocity of 1,500 ft. a second, and capable of penetrating 18 in. of armour. This is the most powerful ordnance yet afloat; for although a couple of guns of the same weight are mounted in the fore-turret of the Thunderer, they burn a smaller powder charge, throw a projectile 100 lb. lighter, and exert considerably less energy in foot-tons. The marvel, however, is not as regards the gun, but the placing of such enormous armaments in vessels which are not appreciably larger than the twelve gunboats of the Medina class, the armament of which only consists of three 64-pounders. Until the feat had actually been achieved, it might have been thought impossible to float and fight such heavy ordnance at sea, in a vessel the total displacement of which, including coal, provisions, powder, and shot, and everything needful on board—the armament, of course, not excepted—does not exceed ten times the weight of the gun itself. The weight of the vessels is 400 tons, while that of the gun, which is somewhat over thirty-eight tons, and its fittings, is close upon forty tons. The object in view has been accomplished by constructing the vessel specially for the gun. All unnecessary weight in the shape of armour has been avoided, the target presented by the end-on position of the boats being so small that at the distance covered by the range of their guns the likelihood of their being hit at all is reduced to a minimum. Even the guns themselves are, with the exception of a thwartship bulkhead—which, however, affords no protection—entirely exposed. The larger the ordnance the less liable they are to injury; and such is the strength of these 38-ton guns that, unless struck by a shot upon the trunnions, they would probably not suffer if hit in action. There are two iron-plated decks forward, which are divided into a large number of compartments by horizontal and longitudinal bulkheads, by means of which the strain of the gun and the recoil is diffused throughout the structure. The guns are worked by hydraulic power precisely after the manner in which the 100-pounder was worked during the recent experiments at Spezia, and according to the method which will be applied to the 81-ton guns on board the Indefatigable at Portsmouth. The gun rests upon trunnion blocks which work upon a couple of beam slides, the hydraulic pistons by means of which the gun is run out and in and the recoil is checked being directly applied

to the trunnions. The necessity of a carriage is thus dispensed with, and as the slides lie prone upon the deck greater steadiness and stability of platform are secured. The projectiles are brought from the magazines to the loading positions by means of a trolley running on tram plates, and are thrust home by a mechanical rammer working beneath the glacis plates at the bow, and which have an outward droop to allow of depressed fire. The gun is irremovably fixed along the centre line, the training being effected by the helm, which, when in action, is worked by the gunner in the pilot-house by the same docile and uniform power which elevates, depresses, and runs the gun in and out. Besides the 38-ton gun the gunboats carry two 12-pounder breechloading Armstrong guns on their quarters, and a 10-chambered 45-inch Gatling gun, which is effective at a distance of 800 yards. They possess no stern guns, but as the Gatling can be shifted to any position, they are not unprepared for attack come whence it may. They only draw 8 ft., and have a speed of nine knots. The propelling engines work up to 310-horse power, the same exactly as the engines of the Medina class, and are of the surface-condensing horizontal direct-acting type. The practice at the guns was very satisfactory, and H.E. Kuo took a turn at the handle of the Gatling, "delivering a well-sustained fire, under which no boat could have lived."

WHAT WE ARE DOING IN CHINA.

(PALL MALL GAZETTE.)

In a despatch from Sir Thomas Wade to Lord Derby which appears in the last Blue-book on China a highly suggestive passage occurs. It runs thus:—"The anti-foreign feeling in the country is, on the part of a large majority, of the educated class, as violent as ever it was. It has, indeed, been stimulated by the efforts to introduce foreign inventions and education of a certain influential minority. The leading members of the central Government, so far as there is one, are in a great degree anti-foreign, and, when not altogether bigoted opponents of improvement, are yet far too much in dread of the censure of the anti-foreign public openly to countenance innovation. In some particulars they are as bigoted opponents as any in the Empire." In other words, although the Ministers of the civilised world have been in constant communication with the members of the Chinese Government for sixteen years; although the trading points of contact between foreigners and natives have trebled in number; although the missionary bodies in the country have been largely recruited; and although several native missions, pseudo-political and otherwise, have visited the Western world, the mandarins and a large majority of the educated class are as violently anti-foreign as ever. Not only do those who know little or nothing of foreigners still display a determined spirit of hostility to them, but they are equally hostile who have been in constant intercourse with foreign diplomatic and consular officers, and who have had opportunities of studying the aims and watching the behaviour of European officials, merchants, and missionaries.

The question therefore arises, Has experience proved that the Chinese were right in their estimate of the "outer barbarians," or have the "barbarians" by their conduct and policy so belied their real character as to give a colour to the false notions of the Chinese? Now, the official Chinese despatches which have from time to time come to light show plainly that the writers and their friends look with hate upon foreigners as being aggressive, violent, greedy of gain, and peace-breakers. And it must be remembered that the results of foreign intercourse with that country have been, from a commercial point of view, greatly to the advantage of foreigners, and that the treaties have been agreed to by the Chinese Government only at the point of the bayonet. Mischief has arisen too out of the pride engendered by the lordship which, owing to her intellectual superiority, China has been able to exercise over the neighbouring nations of Asia. For she has learned to look down with supreme contempt upon all who are not her subjects; and this being so, it became necessary for foreign Ministers to take up a firm attitude towards the Government, and to make it feel by the force of their individual and collective weight that, while strictly limiting their demands to the terms of the treaties, they were prepared to insist on the Chinese Government faithfully fulfilling its part in the contract. But what has been the policy actually pursued by them? Instead of combining to carry out a dignified policy, and one which in the end would work out to the advantage of China, they have all pulled different ways, each trying to gain some advantage over the others. One urges the Chinese Government to establish a college for the study of foreign languages over which a countryman of his own may preside; another persuades the Government to give an order for a fleet of war vessels to be built in the dockyards of his native land; a third advocates the establishment of a dockyard in which his countrymen should be supreme; a fourth is constantly hankering after slices of territory, and so on. All these concessions and more also have been urged with such persistency that they have every one been granted, to the final discomfiture, however, of the State and to those who clamoured for them; for as a member of the Tsung-le Yamun once observed, they have ended in nothing but loss, humiliation, and danger.

Nations, like individuals, are often accepted at their own estimate of themselves, and the lofty pretensions which China has set up have been passively supported by the foreign competitors for her favours. No courted beauty has ever been so encouraged in wilfulness as China has been. Her suitors have eagerly basked in her faintest smile, and have welcomed with joy any symptom of cordiality. "The Emperor knows your name!" one day whispered a member of the Tsung-le Yamun to the Inspector-General of Foreign Customs; and the gratifying fact was current news in every Legation in Peking before the day was spent. A pseudo-political mission, which *The Times* now describes as "farcical," was despatched with an inferior clerk from a Government office at its head, and its members were received at a private audience by the Queen, and were fêted at Buckingham-Palace. It is true that ever

and anon when China has inflicted a more than usually severe slap in the face to some one of her suitors the sufferer has fretted and fumed and threatened revenge; but experience has assured her that she need but coax a little and promise the injured Minister a future commercial advantage over his fellows in order to soothe him completely. Meanwhile, the foreign merchants, in addition to flooding the country with loaded Manchester goods and opium, have succeeded by craft in saddling the Government with a railway; and in the interior the Roman Catholic missionaries are keeping the mandarins in a chronic state of disquiet by their assumption of the titles and paraphernalia of office.

What wonder, then, that the educated classes are as violently anti-foreign as ever? Asiatics have a great admiration for a firm unyielding policy, which to their minds means strength—conscious strength; and, being accustomed to the practical application of the proverb that might makes right, it is unintelligible to them that a representative of a nation of equal or superior power to themselves should be willing to abate one jot or tittle of his lawful rights. At the present moment we are negotiating to forego our full demands for the murder of Mr. Margary, and to condone that crime for a few mercantile advantages. In such matters for the future it may be well to imitate the conduct of the Japanese under somewhat similar circumstances. It may be remembered that the crew of a Japanese vessel were murdered by some Formosan savages, and that to the complaints of the Mikado's Government the Chinese Foreign-office pleaded want of practical sovereignty, exactly as it did with regard to the murderers of Mr. Margary. Instead, however, of entering into mutual recriminations with the defaulters, the Mikado's Government took the law in their own hands and landed a force on the island. This decided action secured every desired end. The savages were punished; the Chinese Government was reduced to an apology, and was compelled to pay the cost of the Japanese expedition; and the lives of shipwrecked Japanese sailors have been secured. Moore once suggested that, as low bows and prostrations form so prominent a part in Chinese Court etiquette, Grimaldi the clown would be the most fitting person to be accredited as ambassador to the Court of Peking. The obsequious policy which gave rise to this gibe has been far too long in vogue in our dealings with the mandarins. We have our Treaty, let us be content with that. Let us insist on its conditions being fulfilled; and let us not by fussy gain-seeking and political maladroitness help to perpetuate the violent anti-foreign hatred which now exists as strongly as ever among the educated class in China.

THE "CELESTIAL DELUGE"

A correspondent of the *Scotsman*, after detailing the facts connected with the spread of the Chinese in the United States, says:—

In a few years we must look to see the whole Union overrun by these intruders; and the question will come to be, how long will the Atlantic Ocean continue to be the limit of their eastward progress? There is reason to believe that it will be some considerable time before we begin to import Celestials in large numbers. Like the potato-bug, their progress on land is rapid; but they will probably make a long pause before taking another leap over a few thousand miles of sea. They may be upon us, however, sooner than we expect. The other week there was word of a vessel, with a Chinese crew on board, arriving at Leith, and of another similarly manned coming to Greenock, and a dark whisper has been going the rounds of a scheme for employing Mongol labour in working our collieries and ironstone pits. The Leith captain, it was said, was pleased with his crew, while the Greenock shipmaster was not. This must be attributed to mere difference of taste on the part of the two skippers—or, perhaps, because at Leith masters are thankful for small mercies in the matter of quality of seamen. John is always the same—smug, grinning, attentive industrious, sure of his own superiority, while we only believe in ours, and, it must be added, an incorrigible liar and cheat. This is the personage with whom we shall have shortly to deal, as he steps smiling on shore after a long voyage cool and fresh as American beef, and more than relatively as cheap. There is no denying the advantages that may be derived from his presence among us: unluckily, the inconveniences are as undoubted. He may be useful in many ways, but he is not a beautiful creature, morally more than physically. In the first place, his reception will be of a very mixed character; it certainly will not be peaceful. The barbers may receive him with open arms, but the washerwomen will with difficulty be restrained from tearing him to pieces. If we once allow him to get a settlement among us, the result cannot for a moment be in dispute. He will begin at the bottom of the social scale—that is his way—and will work himself gradually up. When John establishes himself in a town—say Edinburgh—he has a slow but thoroughgoing method of making it his own. He takes a room in the lowest locality, and he invites seven others like to himself to share it with him. He nails up around the sides as many benches and shelves as there is wall space for. One of these shelves is his bed-room, his smoking-room, his lounge. The floor of the apartment is his dining hall, where he sits over uncommonly short commons with his fellow-benchers. The neighbours fly the locality, holding their noses between their forefinger and thumb; more Chinese arrive; the abandoned houses fall into their hands cheap, and are parcelled out in a similar manner; and the Chinese quarter extends until finally it absorbs the whole. While the invaders spread, they also rise in status, and perhaps no position, short of that of a trade-union secretary, is out of the range of a Chinaman's ambition. They are said to show a peculiar aptitude for the legal profession, and pigstails may yet be seen projecting from beneath the queues of the advocates in the Parliament House, and the majesty of the law looking down obliquely through the eyes of a Mongolian occupant of the bench. The new order of things will not mean easier times for municipal bodies. A Chinese town, in bustle, and in tight packing of its human swarm, resembles nothing so much as an ant-hill, except perhaps a bee-hive, in

process of being smoked, with its inhabitants revelling in the fumes. In these circumstances, the difficulties with which a distracted Board of Supervision will have to contend in dealing with such matters as drainage, cleaning, lighting, and overcrowding will be endless. Fancy the fumes of opium and joss-stick, and other imported odours added to the familiar smells of High-street, and Cow-gate; Princes-street lighted with paper lanterns, and the city re-christened with a name compounded of five twanging monosyllables. The idea is simply intolerable. But how, it may be asked, are we to defend ourselves from this impending calamity? Should we take a leaf from the Chinaman's own book, and prohibit his entrance into the country—treat him, in short, as if he were the phylloxera or the cattle plague? With our ideas of free trade and intercourse this can hardly be. We must do justice, though the whole Celestial Empire fall on us, and give a fair field, though the odds against us be four hundred millions, more or less. One way only of meeting the danger successfully seems practicable. Let us fight the Chinese with their own weapons. Let all of us set about working harder, and spending, or, at least, wasting less. If this policy is heartily and perseveringly pursued the dangers of "Chinese cheap labour" will be minimised or—who knows?—wholly averted.

Correspondence.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.)

SIR,—I have just passed through the Suez Canal, and am astonished at the delay which is permitted in the navigation. This passage is frequently a matter of four days, and from what I gathered from local agents at Port Said and Suez, remonstrance is of no avail. The stoppages, as a rule, are caused by the inefficiency of the pilots in getting vessels aground. These pilots are French, and in a moment of difficulty always get excited and jump about on the bridge like maniacs, and unless the captain has sufficient pluck to take matters in his own hands the result is tolerably certain. Now that we have a substantial share in the Canal it is time that we took steps to "straighten" out these difficulties.—Yours truly,
A SHIP OWNER.
Marseilles, Feb. 12, 1877.

THE OVERLAND ROUTE.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.)

SIR,—In these days of progress and speed every hour necessarily lost is looked on with impatience. I lately raced through from London to Brindisi, travelling night and day, on my way to China. The P. and O. steamer left at her time, and arrived at Alexandria on Thursday morning, at eight, but we were informed that we should not leave for Suez until the evening! To my astonishment I was informed that it was the course always adopted. Two hours would have landed all the passengers, mails, &c. This mode of procedure seemed to me more extraordinary when I found that our transit through Egypt by rail, at night, was a very cold and miserable journey, whilst the day was bright, and the various stations, &c., could have been seen along the line. We arrived at Suez at 6.30 a.m., and went directly on board the steamer, but did not start until four. This is another waste of time, which seems very unaccountable.—Yours truly,
A TRAVELLER.

[We believe that the P. and O. Company have found the night conveyance, on trial, to be most convenient for the whole year's service.—Ed. L. and C. T.]

CHINESE LABOUR IN ENGLAND.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.)

SIR,—In reference to the concluding paragraph of the article in your issue of 12th inst., entitled "Chinese Labour in England," allow me to point out that Europeans are not "excluded from competing in China in the same class of works which the natives of this country do abroad;" they have only to accept the conditions of the country, in the same way as a Chinaman in England has to submit to English laws and customs. It may be hard upon a European to work in China under such conditions; but is it not a hardship for a Chinese labourer to abide by the usages of European civilisation—not to mention the inhospitable treatment he receives at the hands of the free and enlightened citizens of California? The difficulty will exist so long as two countries are so vastly different in mode of government, manners and customs as England and China. While extra-territorial jurisdiction exists in China it is in my opinion useless to speak about equal privileges. If the principle of equality, which has been established in diplomatic intercourse, were to be carried out consistently in all relations the Chinese would of course be allowed to appoint Consuls in England, and to be subject to their own laws on British soil. This would not by any means be a desirable state of affairs. My opinion is that matters will have to take their own course, and the "opening-up of China" will be accomplished in due season by the influence of commerce, not by cannon and diplomatic despatches.—I am, &c.,
Manchester, Feb. 16.

D.

Literature.

The Friend of China (Organ of the Anglo-Oriental Society for the Suppression of the Opium Trade) for February contains several very interesting articles. It notes that Mr. Mark Stewart is again to call attention to China affairs in the House, during the present Session. Among other matter, it gives a review of the last China Blue-book, containing the Margary correspondence; translations of recent Anti-Opium Tracts, and an article, by an old Canton resident, upon Opium as affecting the wealthy and intellectual classes in China.

The Geographical Review for the current month contains, among other interesting matter, a further notice of Abbé David's valuable travels in China.

A new paper, the *Tokio Times*, has been issued in Japan. The first number contains some thoughtful and temperate articles, though they perhaps incline a little more towards Japanese institutions than will be generally acceptable.

The *Foreign-office List* for the current year has one or two new features deserving of special notice. It is prefaced by a succinct history of the offices of Secretaries of State, and with a list of the Secretaries of State for Foreign Affairs from 1782 to the present time, and also with a list of the Under-Secretaries—both of which will be of much value. The various changes and promotions are noted to Dec. 1, 1876. Among the "promotions and transfers" during the past six months no less than twelve are in China and one in Japan, out of a total of twenty-two.

The *Revue de Géographie* for February contains the first instalment of a translation from the Chinese, entitled "Journal d'une Mission en Corée." The Journal is that kept by Kwei Lin, who was sent on a special mission to Korea by the Emperor Tung Chih, in 1866, and it promises to be interesting. The translation has been made by M. F. Scherzer, of the French Legation at Peking.

The *Monatsschrift für den Orient* for February contains an interesting article from a Shanghai correspondent signing himself "S," on Glass Manufacture in China.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

At the Royal Society, on Feb. 15, Dr. Hooker, President, in the chair, papers were read "On Stratified Discharges; and on a Rapid Contact Breaker and the Phenomena of the Flow," by Mr. W. Spottiswoode,—"On Lymphatics and their Origins in Muscular Tissues," by Mr. G. Hoggan and Mrs. Frances Elizabeth Hoggan,—and "Remarks chiefly on 487² = 486," by Mr. W. Shanks.

At the Geological Society, on Feb. 7, Professor P. M. Duncan, President, in the chair, who announced that the officers of a newly-established scientific club in Vienna had written, offering the use of the club to any of the Fellows of the Society who may visit Vienna. Communications were read "On the Chemical and Mineralogical Changes which have taken place in certain Eruptive Rocks of North Wales," by Mr. J. A. Phillips,—"On New Species of Belemnites and Salenia from the Middle Tertiaries of South Australia," by Mr. R. Tate,—and "On *Manisaurus Gardneri* (Seeley), an Elasmosaurian from the Base of the Gault at Folkestone," by Mr. H. G. Seeley.

The Society of Antiquaries met on the 15th inst., when a variety of interesting objects were exhibited, and the reading of Captain Burton's paper "On the History and Antiquities of Lissa and Pelagossa" resumed.

At the Numismatic Society on Feb. 15, J. Evans, Esq., President, in the chair, Mr. C. F. Keary read the first of a series of papers "On the Numismatics of the Transition Era from the Fall of the Western Empire to the Crowning of Charlemagne as Emperor, A.D. 800." He began by discussing the condition of the coinage in Europe about the time of the accession of Honorius, and, from an examination of the laws, national poetry, &c., of the various Teutonic peoples, showed what were the substitutes for a coinage among them. Proceeding to the era of the Barbarian invasions, the writer was of opinion that a large proportion of the coinage in each invaded territory becoming diverted from its proper uses was employed only to pay taxes or tributes to the German conquerors, and was by them frequently converted into bullion or ornaments. Gold being the metal especially prized, Mr. Keary contended that the chief use of a gold coinage now became the paying of these taxes, while the money in the baser metals alone remained current among the earlier inhabitants. He next examined the earliest coinages of the various barbarian invaders, Burgundians, Visigoths, Vandals, &c., consisting of mere barbarous imitations of the Imperial coins, especially of the aurei.

At the Linnean Society on Feb. 1, G. Bentham Esq., V.P., in the chair, Messrs. G. Boulter, A. S. Heath, and W. Meller were elected Fellows. Sir J. Lubbock proceeded with Part IV. of his contributions "On the Habits of Ants," &c. By an

ingenious contrivance of something of a double letter form (thus Fx), an interval of three-tenths of an inch, either by a drop from above or reaching the distance from below, was formed by withdrawal of a small cross bar. This almost inappreciable space alone prevented the ants from reaching a glass cell filled with larvæ, for they evidently had not sense or intelligence enough to surmount it, although they had for hours been traversing the route and carrying off larvæ previous to the three-tenths of an inch being left open. Industry was conspicuously shown by one specimen, which Sir John used to place in solitary confinement in a bottle for hours, and once for days; but the moment it was released it commenced larvæ gathering, though just previously on short commons.

At the Statistical Society on Feb. 20, J. Heywood, Esq., President, in the chair, Mr. C. Walford read a paper "On Fires and Fire Insurance, considered in their National Aspects."

At the Anthropological Institute, on Feb. 13, Mr. J. Evans, President, in the chair, Miss Buckland read a paper "On Primitive Agriculture," in which the value of the study of the subject was explained, as determining migrations, &c., of nations in prehistoric times. The origin of the cereals is still obscure, and maize, which has been considered indigenous to the New World, and unknown in Europe before the time of Columbus, was, in the opinion of Miss Buckland (based on the reports of recent travellers in Africa, Madagascar, New Guinea, China, &c.) cultivated by peoples which have never had intercourse with Europeans. In America, China, and Ancient Egypt there are traces of a time anterior to that of the cultivation of the cereals.

At the Psychological Society on Feb. 13, Mr. Serjeant Cox, President, in the chair, a paper was read by Mr. C. Bray, "On Cerebral Psychology," showing the relationship of the brain to mental action.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, FEB. 21.

The Second Chamber has done some good practical work. The Minister, Van der Heim, laid before the Members a Bill having for its object a partial revision of the import and export tariff on a liberal basis. This Bill was carried, after a warm debate, by 47 against 3 votes. In order to cover the amount which the Treasury will lose by this measure the excise duty on spirits will be increased by f.4 per hectolitre. An interpellation took place, in order that the Members should obtain some further information about the honourable dismissal of Mr. Wagner, ex-Governor of Curacao. Complaints were made in the papers that this gentleman had not neglected, but rather promoted, our diplomatic relations with Venezuela, so that there was no reason for granting the dismissal in that way. The Minister has given most satisfactory proof of this, so that the honour of his dismissal is quite saved. Mr. Fabius, the interpellator, hoped that the successor of Mr. Wagner, Mr. Kip, would prove to be the right man in the right place, and that he would have more success in his endeavours to keep peace between Curacao and Venezuela. Herewith the matter dropped.

Several rumours have been in circulation about the Prince of Orange, but I don't think fit to repeat them, because they are more or less untrustworthy. It seems, however, that a crisis is near at hand, and that his brother will assume the rights of Crown Prince. This much is certain, namely, that Prince Alexander has been appointed on H.M.'s birthday—19th inst.—Major-General on the Grand Staff of the Army, whilst, at the same time, he was promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral. The festivities, which were announced in several places to take place on this "National Day" were either hindered or prevented by the stormy and rainy weather. H.M. conferred, as usually on this day, the knighthood of the Order of the Dutch Lion upon several persons. Amongst them are: Messrs. W. Stortenbeker, jun., First Secretary of the Government in India; F. R. K. Peyer in Hoff, Lieutenant-Colonel of the E. I. Army; W. J. Havenga, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Staff; R. C. Kroesen, Assistant-Resident in Atjeh; the Pangeran Adipati Scerjo Sosro Ningrat (Pakoe Alam) of Djocjoearta, and the Regent of Passaroan, Raden Adipati Arjo Niti Adining Rat.

Our fishermen in the North Sea complain again seriously that they are molested on the high sea by their English competitors. I hear that our Ambassador at the Court of St. James' has been charged to ask for more severe measures than hitherto to be taken in order to prevent such molestation in future.

Our Government has taken rigorous measures in order to prevent our cattle from being attacked by rinderpest. A line of demarcation has been ordered on the northern and southern parts of our frontiers, to prevent the import of cattle from Germany. The news regarding this epidemic is on the whole satisfactory.

On the 1st of May the Dutch colonies will enjoy the advantages of the Postal Convention at Geneva. The postage will be then fixed as follows:—For letters prepaid 25c. per 15 gram. (letters which are not prepaid are charged 40c.), post-cards 12½c., book-post samples and papers 7½c. per 50 gram.; it will not be allowed to post samples exceeding the weight of 250 grams., and papers weighing more than 1,000 grams. I need not say that this will be an enormous improvement.

The enlistment of soldiers to reinforce the army in Java has been satisfactory during the last days, so that the regular number of soldiers can be shipped on the 24th inst. and on the 3rd of March.

The first mail steamer Java, belonging to the company of the same name, started direct from here through the new canal to sea. Within four hours she reached the harbour.

Both Exchange and the market for Colonial Produce are very calm. The transactions are unimportant. There is no speculative demand whatsoever, and business is limited to immediate wants. The Money Market is plentifully supplied; the largest amounts can be obtained at 2½ to 3 per cent.

THE GOVERNMENT.

The following is a list of the chief officials in the several departments of the present Administration :—

The Premier and Lord Privy Seal	... *The Right Hon. the Earl of Beaconsfield.
Lord High Chancellor	... *The Right Hon. Lord Cairns.
President of the Council	... *The Right Hon. the Duke of Richmond and Gordon.
Vice-President of the Council	... The Right Hon. Viscount Sandon, M.P.
First Commissioner of Works	... The Right Hon. G. J. Noel, M.P.
Postmaster-General	... *The Right Hon. Lord John Manners, M.P.
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster	... Colonel the Right Hon. T. E. Taylor, M.P.
Paymaster-General	... The Right Hon. Stephen Cave, M.P.
Judge-Advocate-General	... The Right Hon. G. A. Cavendish-Bentinck.
THE FOREIGN OFFICE.	
Secretary of State	... *The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby.
Under Secretaries	... { The Hon. Robert Bourke, M.P. Lord Tenterden, C.B. (Permanent). Sir Julian Pauncefote (Legal).
THE COLONIAL OFFICE.	
Secretary of State	... *The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon.
Under Secretaries	... { Mr. James Lowther, M.P. Mr. R. G. W. Herbert (Permanent).
THE HOME OFFICE.	
Secretary of State	... *The Right Hon. R. A. Cross, M.P.
Under Secretaries	... { Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson, M.P. The Hon. A. F. O. Liddell (Permanent).
THE WAR OFFICE.	
Secretary of State	... *The Right Hon. Gathorne Hardy, M.P.
Under Secretaries	... { Earl Cadogan, the Hon. F. A. Stanley, M.P., Mr. C. M. Clode (Legal), Capt. Vivian (Permanent).
Surveyor General of Ordnance	... Lord Eustace Cecil, M.P.
THE TREASURY.	
First Lord	... *The Right Hon. the Earl of Beaconsfield.
Chancellor of the Exchequer	... *The Right Hon. Sir S. Northcote, M.P.
Junior Lords	... { Viscount Crichton, M.P., Sir J. Elphinstone, M.P., Mr. Rowland Winn, M.P.
Secretaries	... { Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., Sir William Hart-Dyke, Bart., M.P., Mr. R. W. Lingen, C.B. (Permanent).
THE ADMIRALTY.	
First Lord	... *The Right Hon. George Ward Hunt, M.P.
Other Lords	... { Admiral Sir H. R. Yelverton, Vice-Admiral Sir G. P. Hornby, Rear-Admiral Lord Gifford, Sir Massey Lopes, M.P.
Controller	... Rear-Admiral W. H. Stewart.
Secretary	... The Hon. Algernon Egerton, M.P.
Permanent Secretary	... Vernon Lushington, Q.C.
Naval Secretary	... Rear-Admiral Robt. Hall, C.B.
THE INDIA OFFICE.	
Secretary of State	... *The Right Hon. the Marquis of Salisbury
Under Secretaries	... { Lord George Hamilton, M.P. Sir Louis Mallet, C.B.
THE BOARD OF TRADE.	
President	... The Rt. Hon. Sir Charles Adderley, M.P.
Secretaries	... { The Hon. Edward Stanhope, M.P. Mr. T. H. Farrer (Permanent).
THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.	
President	... The Right Hon. George Selater-Booth, M.P.
Secretaries	... { Mr. Thomas Salt, M.P. Mr. Jno. Lambert, C.B. (Permanent).
LEGAL.	
Attorney-General	... Sir John Holker, Q.C., M.P.
Solicitor-General	... Sir Hardinge S. Giffard, Q.C.
IRELAND.	
Lord Lieutenant	... The Duke of Marlborough
Commander of the Forces	... General the Right Hon. Sir Jno. Miche
Chief Secretary	... *The Right Hon. Sir M. H. Beach, M.P.
Under Secretary	... Mr. Thos. Haviland Burke.
Lord Chancellor	... The Right Hon. J. T. Ball.
Attorney-General	... Mr. Edward Gibson, Q.C., M.P.
Solicitor-General	... The Hon. D. R. Plunket, Q.C., M.P.
SCOTLAND.	
Lord Advocate	... Mr. William Watson.
Solicitor-General	... Mr. J. A. H. Macdonald.
THE ROYAL HOUSEHOLD.	
Lord Chamberlain	... The Marquis of Hertford.
Lord Steward	... Earl Beauchamp.
Vice-Chamberlain	... Viscount Barrington, M.P.
Earl Marshal	... The Duke of Norfolk.
Master of the Horse	... The Earl of Bradford.
Master of the Buckhounds	... The Earl of Hardwicke.
Captain Hon. Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms	... The Earl of Shrewsbury.
Capt. of Yeomen of the Guard	... Lord Skelmersdale.
Treasurer	... The Right Hon. Lord H. Thynne.
Comptroller	... Right Hon. Lord Henry Somerset, M.P.

* Form the thirteen Cabinet Ministers.

Monetary and Commercial.

The following are the latest quotations of Banking and other Companies connected with the Far East :—Agra Bank, 10 to 10½; Chartered Bank of India, 19 to 20; Chartered Mercantile Bank, 28½ to 29½; Comptoir D'Escompte, f.670; Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, 32 to 34; Oriental Bank, 45 to 46; P. and O. Company, 39 to 41; Messageries Maritimes, f.635; Suez Canal, f.660; Japan Loan 9 per cent., 107 to 109; ditto, 7 per cent., 103 to 105.

The business hitherto carried on at Chefoo under the style or firm of Wilson Cornabé and Co., will for the future be conducted under the name of Cornabé and Co., the partners being—William Alexander Cornabé and Andrew Millar Eckford.

Messrs. Clement Lucas and J. H. Pinckvoss have established themselves as merchants, tea and general commission agents, at Hankow and Shanghai, under the style of Lucas and Co. Mr. Samuel Walker is authorised to sign the name of the firm per procurator.

In the Produce Markets business continues dull. Tea has been offered in increased quantities in public sale, and has gone off at irregular prices. Silk has been dull at a further decline. Coffee is also lower owing to heavy supplies. There has been nothing doing in East Indian Sugars. Rice is quiet, but some business has been done in Japan. Pepper has been more active at the lower rates recently established. Gambier continues to decline. There has been more doing in Hemp, but without improvement in value. Other articles show no alteration.

The total quantity of tea delivered from the bonded warehouses in London last week was 3,386,436 lbs., which was 45,755 lbs more than was taken out of bond during the corresponding week of 1876. Of this quantity 2,188,747 lbs. went for home consumption, the duty paid thereon having been £54,718 13s. 6d., or £644 5s. 6d. in excess of the amount paid during the corresponding week of last year. The following were the quantities of the other principal dutiable articles withdrawn for home consumption during the week ending the 17th instant :—Coffee, 502,470 lbs.; cocoa, 245,674 lbs.; tobacco, 395,420 lbs.; cigars, 17,438 lbs.; wine, 171,982 gallons; brandy, 32,539 gallons; and rum, 32,269 gallons.

In the Manchester Market there was, in the early part of the past week, almost complete stagnation, owing to the fall in Indian exchange, the small business and declining tendency in the Liverpool Cotton Market. Prices were nominally unaltered, but there was a decided disposition to accept lower terms. On the 23rd inst. the only change was a renewal of the inquiry for China qualities of Grey Shirtings, but the offers put forward were quite out of the range of business, even with the disposition producers evinced to realise at lower prices. The transactions have consequently been very small. For Yarns there is a slightly better demand at low prices.

The latest telegram from China gives the total export of tea at 159,750,000 lbs., the largest supply ever shipped to date in one season. This enormous quantity is exclusive of shipments of Indian tea, of about 22,000,000 lbs., out of a total of 28,000,000 lbs. for the season.

Tenders were received on the 21st inst. for Government drafts on India, to the amount of 17½ lacs, or nearly £175,000, and the entire amount was placed, but only at a reduction as compared with last week's minimum of 8d. to 7-16d. per rupee. The sums allotted were :—On Calcutta, £130,400; on Bombay £43,600; and on Madras, £1,000; all bills tendered for at 1s. 9½d. per rupee receiving in full, and telegrams at that price about 58 per cent. of the amounts applied for. With reference to this allotment the *Daily News* says :—

The vacillating policy of the Indian Council has been again exhibited. On the 31st ult. and 7th inst. the line appeared to have been drawn at 1s. 10d., last week a fractional reduction was made in this price, and now all offered is sold at a decline of ½d. Indian trade both import and export is being crippled by these uncertain movements, and it would be better for the Government to at once declare whether it will continue to sell to the highest bidders each week, or without notice fix a minimum which may be above all the tenders. It may be readily imagined than an exporter who based his calculations last week at a certain rate, and has now to sell his drafts at 2 per cent. less, must not only in many cases lose all the profit attached to the transaction, but, as trade is now being "cut fine," an actual loss may accrue. Optimists who have all along declared that the "depreciation of silver" would ultimately right itself now seem to be hardly so confident, and it may be that before the middle of the year—the period of greatest depression in 1876—cries may again arise that something must be done to render the fixed standard of value in India rather more stable than it is now, or has been for a long time past.

Bar Silver has declined to 56½d., at which price the amounts on the market have been taken, and the market is almost cleared. No Mexican Dollars have been sold.

The amount of bullion per P. and O. Steamer *Peshawur*, from Southampton on the 22nd inst., was—In gold to Galle £2,230. In silver to Penang £63,650, to Hong Kong £2,300, to Shanghai £258,650; total in silver £326,600.

Tenders are invited by the Crown Agents for the Colonies for £1,000,000 in Four-and-a-Half per Cent. Debentures of the Government of the Cape of Good Hope, authorised by an Act of

1874. The purpose is for the construction and equipment of railways, and redemption will take place by annual drawings of one per cent. per annum on the accumulative principle, the first of which will take place in March, 1878. The bonds will be of the value of £100, £200, and £500 each.

A Consolidated Six per Cent. Loan for £200,000 is offered to the public by the Bank of New Zealand on behalf of the City of Wellington. The money is required to pay off existing debentures and for purposes of drainage, waterworks, and wharf extensions. Tenders will be opened on the 5th of March, and none will be accepted below par.

The report of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company states that the accounts for the year show a net profit of £91,555, after charging the interest on the debentures. To this sum must be added £57,359 brought forward from last year, making a total of £148,914. From this amount is deducted the interim dividend of 5 per cent., amounting to £22,410, leaving £126,504 to be dealt with. Of this sum the directors propose to distribute a dividend of 15 per cent., or £67,230, being at the rate of £1 16s. per share, and making, with the amount already paid, a total dividend for the year of 20 per cent. in cash, free of income-tax; leaving £59,274 to be carried forward to the next account.

The annual report of the British Land Company states that the sales of the year have amounted to £182,754. The profit and loss account shows an available balance of £11,144, which enables the directors to recommend a dividend of 3 per cent. (free of income-tax) and to carry forward £2,144 to the next account.

The directors of the Merchant Banking Company of London have resolved to declare a dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum for the half-year ending the 31st of December last, being at the same rate as that paid in previous years, and to carry forward £9,117 to the next account.

The report of the directors of the Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Company states that the fire premiums for the past year amount to £989,756, and the losses to £460,744, showing a net surplus of £240,579. The General Reserve and Fire Reassurance Fund will be increased from £850,000 to £1,000,000. The directors recommend a dividend of 8s. per share, together with a bonus of 4s. per share.

The directors of the Anglo-Californian Bank have declared an interim dividend of 10s. per share for the half-year ending December 31, 1876, being at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum.

It is announced by the Board of the National Discount Company that, subject to confirmation by the shareholders, they have succeeded in making an arrangement by which Messrs. Roger Cunliffe, John Cunliffe, and William Fowler will join the Board. The directors entered into negotiations which have resulted in a conditional agreement that these gentlemen will retire from business on their own account, and will use their best endeavours to bring to the company such portion of their business as they can influence. The arrangement involves the creation and issue to them, on the conditions above stated, of 9,333 shares, with £5 deemed to have been paid up thereon.

A parliamentary return shows that in 1875 there were 1,153 companies registered, with a proposed capital of £82,447,180, in addition to nineteen others without nominal capital. From 1st January to 31st May last year 478 companies were registered, with an aggregate proposed capital of £24,056,520; and eighty-two others without nominal capital.

COMPANIES CONNECTED WITH THE FAR EAST.

Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, 122, Leadenhall-street, and 25, Cockspur-street, Pall-mall.

Messageries Maritimes (Head Office Paris), 97, Cannon-street, and 51, Pall Mall.

Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company, 13, Austinfriars. Hong Kong and China Gas Company, Gresham House, J. C. Walduck, secretary.

Singapore Gas Company, 8, St. Mary Axe, Robert King, Secretary. Singapore New Harbour Dock Company, Paterson and Simons, agents, 21, St. Swithin's-lane.

Singapore Johore Steam Saw Mills, Paterson and Simons, agents, 21, St. Swithin's-lane. Amoy Dock Company, John Pook and Co., agents, Lime-street-square.

Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock, Morrison and Co., agents, 4, Fen church-street.

North China Insurance Company, 25, Cornhill, J. S. Mackintosh, manager.

Canton Insurance Company, Matheson and Co., agents, 3, Lombard-street.

Union Insurance Company of Canton, M. P. Jukes, manager, 82 Broad-street.

China Traders Insurance Company, Limited, 3, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, W. Schmidt, Manager.

Ceylon Company, Palmerston-buildings, Old Broad-street, R. A. Cameron, secretary.

Borneo Company, 22, Fenchurch-street, William Martin, manager. Tanjong Pagar Dock Company (Limited) of Singapore, Macgregor

Tidman, and Co., agents, 34, Leadenhall-street.

German Steamship Company, Hamburg, Robertson and Co., agents, 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill.

Hong Kong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company (Limited), John Batt and Co., Agents, Old Broad-street.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.

The large sales during the week (22 catalogues) have passed with great apathy and irregularity in prices, in one case a break of Congou selling at a difference of 15 per cent. before the last lots were knocked down. The want of confidence and anxiety of importers to quit their teas afford great opportunities to buyers to secure bargains, as between the prices of 8d. to 1s. per lb. are included teas of medium quality, while low Amoy and broken kinds ex late steamers (£3 per ton freight), or 1½d. per lb.) sold at fair prices (quality considered) of 7½d. to 8d. per lb. The home trade shows a little better tone, stimulated by the increasing consumption which is beyond any former period, but the enormous weight of tea constantly thrown on the market precludes any hope of the favourable position of the trade being of benefit to importers, high cost at the shipping ports, too large supplies, and general inferiority, fortunately of no great moment when Indian leaf is being so largely used, all tending to keep down prices.

SILK.

Subjoined is the result of the public sales held from the 21st to the 24th inst. There were offered without reserve—

China	1,025 bales; sold, 703 bales.
Japan	268 " " 221 "
Canton	1,146 " " 909 "

FAIRIS.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
China—Tsatlee common	18 0	18 9		
5, 4½	19 3	20 6		
4½ Dancing Bear	19 3	19 9		
Red Peacock	21 0	21 6		
2 Buffalo	21 0			
3 "	19 9			
3½ Dragon	21 10			
Kybing Taya 4 to 5	12 0	11 0		
L. K. Taya, ed. 2 to 3	12 6	14 0		
common	9 7	10 8		
Canton—Tsatlee Red, 1, 1½	18 0	18 6	19 3	
2 "	14 10	15 2	17 0	17 9
3 "	14 1	15 6	16 0	17 0
4 "	13 7	14 0	14 2	15 0
4½, 5 "	13 0	14 0	11 6	12 9
Japan—Mailash. com. to med.	21 9	22 0	23 0	25 0
Socni. fair to good	13 10	16 8	19 0	20 0
Arch-zan	12 10	14 1		
Oshue common	15 0			
Hatch-jee	12 3	13 11		

COFFEE.—In addition to the recent large arrivals of Ceylon further important supplies are near at hand. The market has consequently become dull, and moderate supplies of various descriptions at public sale have gone off flatly, Plantation Ceylon showing a decline of from 1s. to 3s. per cwt., triage having been sold at 88s., small at 99s. to 100s., low middling to middling at 106s. to 110s. 6d., good middling to good bold at 111s. to 117s. 6d., pea-berry at 114s. 6d. to 115s. 6d. Only 50 bags Native Ceylon have been sold, real good ordinary at 85s. No sales of other descriptions of East India are recorded.

CHINA PRESERVES.—400 cases Ginger bought in at 6d., and 300 cases Chow Chow also at 6d.

COCOA BUT OIL is obtainable at previous prices, fine Cochin £41 10s. to £42, Ceylon in pipes £37 to £37 5s.

CANES.—119,400 Dragon bought in at 3½d. to 1½d., 2 lots 3½d. to 4½d., 20,000 Ground Rattans at 1½d., 5,850 Penang Lawyers at 5½d., except 2,000 which sold at 9d., 1,360 undecorated partly sold at 7½d. each.

CAMPHOR.—About 100 cases old China have been sold at 81s. 3d. per cwt., reweights.

COTTON.—Much depression is manifest, and prices are lower; afloat good fair Bengal has been sold at 5d., with f f clause.

CUTCH.—About 100 boxes Flag BB have been sold at 27s. 6d. per cwt.

ENOXY has been in demand, and at auction, 10 tons Ceylon (import 1872) sold at £13 to £14.

GAMBER.—A dull tone continues to prevail, and prices for arrival are again easier, 50 tons near at hand having been sold at 20s. 9d., and 200 tons February-March shipment at 21s., ex ship, all faults.

GALLS.—50 cases China bought in at 55s. or withdrawn.

GUM BENJAMIN.—Of 125 cases, 9 cases Sumatra seconds sold, badly mixed with dark at £6 5s., fair rather mixed with ditto at £3 10s. to £3 12s. 6d., and 4 cases almond partly dark, and rather dusty at £16 10s., ditto with some run at £15 10s., the remainder withdrawn or bought in, seconds in block £7 10s., and brown thirds at 72s. 6d.

HEMP.—The market remains dull, but rather large supplies of Manila offered at the weekly public sale met a fair demand, and one-half sold at about the prices recently accepted by private contract to an occasional further decline. Other kinds were quite neglected. Of 1,281 bales Manila offered about 600 bales disposed of at and since, brown at £20, good fair at £28 15s. to £29, good Boluan at £30 15s., a few bales fine at £32, and white Quilot £37 to £37 5s.; 35 bales China sold at £21 15s. to £22, and 2 bales Japan were withdrawn.

HIDES.—At the auctions, Singapore and Penang were not wanted. Some Chinas were sold before and after the sale at rates slightly in buyers' favour, but no business was transacted in the chair.

OIL ANISEED.—About 30 cases have been sold at 6s. 6d.

PEPPER.—Black: There has been more inquiry probably at the recent decline, and 1,500 bags Penang have been sold at 3½d. to 3½d., 1,000 bags West Coast ditto at 3 13-16d. to 3½d., 750 bags Singapore at 3 15-16d. to 4d., and 500 bags Atchin Penang at 3½d. (3 mos. prompt). A total of 1,405 bags at the public sales to-day met less demand, and the whole was bought in as follows: 1,196 bags Singapore at 4d. to 4½d., 147 bags Penang at 3½d., and 69 bags Malabar at 4½d. White: No private transactions have occurred, and there was little demand at the public sales, and only a small part of the 657 bags offered found buyers, but prices are unchanged; of 541 bags Singapore 50 bags sold, good fair at 6½d., the remainder bought in, also 113 bags Penang at 6½d.

RICE.—A quiet, although steady tone has prevailed, and only one sale has transpired in new crop cargoes of Rangoon. A steamer cargo of about 1,600 tons, spring shipment, has been sold at 9s. 6d. ex ship London. Considerable business has been done in Japan during the last few days, consisting of the following:—On the spot 7,000 bags per Forward Ho, at 11s. 7½d., and two floating cargoes, viz.:—The White Adder, 1,214 tons, September sailing, at 11s. 6d. open charter, and the Aia, 923 tons, off coast, at 11s. for Hamburg direct.

SHELLS.—The periodical sales were held on the 20th inst., with the subjoined results. *Mother-o'-Pearl*: Manila sold at a reduction of 20s. to 30s., except for good clean, which brought full prices; bold and medium Bombay sold steadily, but small 5s. lower; Egyptian partly sold at previous rates; a large supply of black-edged were only partially disposed of on easier terms. Of 310 cases Manila about 180 cases sold, good selected bold at £10 10s. to £10 15s., fair bold at £9 10s. to £10, bold with part small at £9, defective bold at £6 2s. 6d. to £7 2s. 6d., pickings at 7s. 6d. to 9s., chicken and small at £7 7s. 6d. to £7 10s. 150 cases small pieces from Manila sold at 2s. 9d. to 4s. 3d. *Tortoise*: Moderate supplies met a fair demand, and prices show scarcely any alteration from the previous auctions, either for East India or West India; 5 cases (470 lbs.) Singapore good shell sold at 17s. 6d. *Green Snail* met less demand, and 436 baskets 317 bags and 1,860 loose offered were all bought in, large 6d. to 8d., medium 5d., small 3½d. to 5d., very small 1½d. each. *Ear*: 533 bales 12 cases 7 tons Japan met a limited demand, and only 12 cases 1 ton sold, fair bold untrimmed 25s., loose £16 15s.

SUGAR.—The market has exhibited increased flatness, and with little demand small supplies at auction have been only partly disposed of. No sales of East Indian sorts have been effected.

SAGO.—At public sale 584 bags went off flatly, and only 58 bags good bright small sold at 17s., the remainder bought in, ordinary to good small, at 16s. to 17s. 6d.

SPICES.—No sales of East Indian Spices have occurred during the week.

STAR ANNISEEDS.—Of 50 cases China 30 cases mouldy sold at 90s. 6d., the first lot 90s., the remainder good fair sound bought in at £5.

TAPIOCA is steady. Of 730 bags Penang 300 bags good sold at 2½d., with one lot at 2¼d. Of 745 bags Singapore 600 bags sold, grey at 2½d., good at 2½d., fine white at 2½d. *Pearl*: Only 20 bags good seed were offered, and sold at 19s. *Flour*: 432 bags Singapore bought in at 1½d. to 2d.

TOBACCO.—39 bales China sold at 5½d. to 5½d., 20 bales Java 6d., and 5 bales Manila 1s. 4d.

TIN.—The market continued dull throughout the week, and prices have sustained a further decline. Closing quotations are:—Straits on the spot and afloat, £72; Banca £75; Billiton £73 per ton.

VERMILION.—31 cases China sold at 2s. 2d. to 2s. 3d.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

METALS.

IRON.—Welsh: Rails, £5 10s. to £5 15s.; Bars, £6 5s. to £6 10s.; Staffordshire Best: Bars, £7 10s. to £8; Nail Rods, £7 10s. to £8; Hoops, £8 10s. to £9 15s.; Sheets, £10 to £12; Scotch Pig, No. 1, £2 18s. to £3 10s.; Swedes, Bars, Hammered, £11 to £12; Swedes, Steel in kegs, ½ and ¾ in., £16 10s. to £17.

YELLOW METAL.—Sheets, 4 by 4 ft., 7½d.; Sheathing and Rods, 7½d. per lb.

TIN.—English Refined, £77 to £78. Tin Plates: Charcoal IC, per box, 24s. to 29s.; Coke, 18s. to 22s.

LEAD.—WB, £22 10s.; do., other brands, £21 5s. to £21 10s.; Spanish soft, ex ship, £21; Sheet, £22 10s.; Shot (kegs extra), £24 10s. to £24 15s.; White do., £28.

SPELTER.—Silesian, £20 15s.

QUICKSILVER.—In bottles of 75 lbs. each, £7 15s.

Shipping Intelligence.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	For	From
Jan. 3	Lucy Pope	Prowse	Akyab	Monte Video
10	Antioch	Hemmingway	Singapore	Rio Janeiro
11	Runnymede	Way	Rangoon	Do.
19	Ceres	Cochrane	Do.	Do.
23	Flying Spur	Croft	Yokohama	St. Vincent, C.V.*
Feb. 12	Urania	Kiewit	Batavia	Amsterdam
14	Apoline Emilie	Gresle	Saigon	Havre
15	Glaucus (s.)	Jackson	Shanghai	Liverpool
15	Marie Charlotte	Michons	Saigon	Bordeaux
15	Bertha (s.)	Windham	Singapore	Cardiff
16	Occident	Renter	Singapore	Do.
17	Therese Behn	Steffens	Hong Kong	Do.
17	Dorset	Courtes	Galle	Do.
17	Elcano	Anchino	Manila	Liverpool
18	G.B.S.	James	Singapore	Do.
18	John M. Clark	Comant	Anjer	Do.
18	R. R. Thomas	Nicholas	Rangoon	Do.
18	Matchless	Davies	Hong Kong	Cardiff
19	Cactus O.	Olirari	Do.	Do.
19	P. P. Lichfield	—	Do.	Do.
19	Maipu	Randall	Do.	Do.
19	Walmer Castle	Lenfesty	Anjer	Do.
19	Annie Laurie	Gale	Do.	Do.
19	Cambridge Prince	Davies	Galle	Do.
20	Penrith	Remington	Hong Kong	London
21	Glenista	Watts	Singapore	Do.
22	End	Renouf	Hong Kong	Do.
22	Osaka	Love	Do.	Do.
22	Belted Will	Braithwaite	Shanghai	Do.

* After repairing.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	From	At
Feb. 12	Ann Thormann	Voss	Cheribon	Havre
12	Samarang	Lehman	Batavia	Middelburg
14	Metis	Kling	Bangkok for Hamburg	Falmouth
15	Cathaya	Thomas	Yokohama	Do.
15	Louis de Geer	Danneberg	Batavia	Do.
15	Satsuma	Richmond	Singapore	Marseilles
15	Questembert	Moreau	Do.	Hamburg
15	Chacma	Jones	Sourabaya	St. Nazaire
15	Dr. Meizer	Iversen	Batavia	Greenock
15	Silver Eagle	Richard	Hong Kong	London
15	Kermalo	Rouille	Do.	Do.
16	Corea	Adams	Do.	Do.
16	James Shephard	Madden	Cebu	Boston, U.S.
16	W. lo	Browne	Manila	Do.
16	Mary E. Russell	Nickerson	Do.	Do.
16	Victor	Sorensen	Samarang	Havre
16	Albee Ritson	Read	Singapore	Liverpool
17	Sarah Watson	Milne	Do.	London
17	Glenfulas (s.)	Wilcox	Foonchow	Do.
17	Ada	Assals	Higo	Plymouth
17	Samar	Miller	Batavia	Boston, U.S.
18	Granite City	Ellis	Samarang	Queensdown
18	Navigator	Oriander	Do.	Do.
18	Rebecca	Bungard	Sourabaya	Do.
18	Faith	Lloyd	Bezekie	Havre
19	Sotera	Jarvis	Hong Kong	London
19	Chachnacuddin	McDonald	Do.	Do.
19	Sindoo	Diepenbroek	Pekalongan	Amsterdam
20	Imatra	Pou-er	Rangoon	Liverpool
20	Marie	Ed. Kerkhoff	Batavia	Rotterdam
20	Klein (s.)	Miller	Manila	Do.
20	Isle	Boggiano	Rangoon	Liverpool
21	Bay of Bengal	Brice	Rangoon for Liverpool	Milford
21	W. J. Lewis	Trefry	Manila	New York
21	Queen of the Seas	Hardwick	Do.	Do.
21	Zoraya	Scarlett	Do.	Do.
23	Halloween	Fowler	Shanghai	London

PASSED SUEZ CANAL.

Date.	Steamer.	From	For
Feb. 17	Drenthe	Southampton	Batavia
18	Loudoun Castle	London	Shanghai
19	Elphinstone	Cardiff	Singapore
19	Antenor	Liverpool	Shanghai
21	Holyrood	Newcastle	Singapore
21	Celebes	Southampton	Batavia

See Shipping Postscript and Correspondents' Letters.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—STEAMERS VIA SUEZ CANAL.—For Singapore, Hong Kong, Yokohama, and Higo: Argentine, Caudia. For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Glenearn, Scindia, Teviot.

SAILING VESSELS.—For Yokohama: Caroline. For Higo: Sir William Wallace, Eme. For Shanghai: City of Aberdeen, Sir Lancelot. For Hong Kong: Antwerp, Commissary, Scindia, Kaisow, Melbrek. For Batavia: Valero, Emma. For Singapore: Berwickshire, W. E. Gladstone. For Penang: Wemyss Castle. For Colombo, Pem-brokehire.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Anchiess (str.), Ajax (str.). For Hong Kong: C. W. Cochrane. For Manila: Gloria (str.), Estrella. For Batavia: Corea, XV. Marzo, St. George. For Singapore: Aleppo, Amstel. For Galle: Janet Cowan. At GLASGOW.—For Shanghai: Isle of Erin. For Bangkok: Lyra. For Singapore and Penang: Janet Fergusson, Cape Race. For Colombo: Thomas Hamlin.

SPOKEN.

S. B. STRATTON, Sourabaya to Boston, Dec. 22, 33 S., 30 E.
LUCIA, Hong Kong to New York, Dec. 29, 35 S., 20 E.
GESINA MARIA, Cheribon to Amsterdam, Jan. 2, 34 S., 16 E.
JAVA PACKET, Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 27, 35 S., 22 E.
TONGVOY, Samarang to Cork, Jan. 14, 30.19 S., 10.17 E.
BERBICE, Sourabaya to Cork, Jan. 20, 30.9 S., 19.57 W.
BARBADIAN, Banjoewangie to Channel, Dec. 21, off Cape of Good Hope.
HUGO, Samarang to Falmouth, Dec. 15, 24.59 S., 62.3 E.
MANFRED, Sourabaya to Falmouth, Jan. 11, 28.27 S., 9.13 E.
ALINE, Batavia to United Kingdom, Dec. 17, 35.31 S., 25.30 E.
DEXTEROUS, Penang to London, Jan. 7, 22.57 S., 4.27 E.
GOODLE, Manila to New York, Jan. 1, off Agulhas.
ACASTA, Sourabaya to United Kingdom, Jan. 7, 34.25 S., 22.47 E.
OSBERGHA, Higo to Falmouth, Jan. 19, 26.34 S., 6.13 E.
LOTHAIR, Yokohama to New York, Jan. 11, 36.11 S., 19.30 E.
TYCOON, Singapore to London, Jan. 20, 16.33 S., 4.33 W.
BUSSORAH, Batavia to United Kingdom, Jan. 1, off Cape of Good Hope.
JOHAN HANSEN, Batavia to Falmouth, Jan. 16, 34.53 S., 20.38 E.
FERGUSON, Java to United Kingdom, Dec. 31, 35.19 S., 23.14 E.
JEAN INGELOW, Manila to New York, Dec. 26, 34.20 S., 23.28 E.
P.J.R.L., Anjer to Rotterdam, Jan. 10, off Agulhas.
HOGLY, Hong Kong to New York, Jan. 13, 33.4 S., 12.39 E.
JAN PIETERSZON KOEN, Amstdam to Samarang, Jan. 7, 22.10 S., 28.27 W.
CHARLES R. LEWIS, Java to Boston, Jan. 21, 30 N., 35 W.
G. H. BETZ, Macassar to Amsterdam, Jan. 9, 8 N., 15 W.
VILLE DE BRUXELLES, Marseilles to Saigon, Jan. 20, 6 N., 25 W.
GAUCHO, Yokohama to Falmouth, Jan. 24, 4.10 N., 25 W.
WHITEADDER, Kobe to Falmouth, Nov. 29, 24.14 S., 60.47 E.
GLENDOVER, Hong Kong to London, Dec. 16, 32 S., 32 E.
V. P. R. Q., Sourabaya to Falmouth, Jan. 11, 20 S., 9 E.
STAR OF THE NORTH, Troon to Penang, Jan. 25, 5 N., 24 W.
PASITHEA, Newport to Galle, Jan. 9, 10 S., 32 W.
BON ACCORD, Sunderland to Singapore, Feb. 15, 49 N., 7 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth.

Per STEAMERS VIA SUEZ CANAL.—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 47s. 6d. meat. To Hiogo: 50s. weight, 50s. meat. To Nagasaki: 60s. weight, 65s. meat. To Shanghai: 45s. weight, 40s. meat. To Hankow: 70s. weight, 70s. meat. To Hong Kong: 45s. weight, 40s. meat. To Singapore: 45s. weight, 40s. meat. To Penang: 45s. weight, 40s. meat. To Colombo: 30s. weight or meat. To Batavia: 60s. meat. To Samarang: 70s. meat. To Sourabaya: 70s. meat.

Per SAILING VESSELS.—To Yokohama: 30s. weight, 30s. meat. To Hiogo: 35s. weight or meat. To Shanghai: 30s. weight, 20s. meat. To Hong Kong: 27s. 6d. weight, 20s. meat. To Singapore: 22s. 6d. weight, 20s. meat. To Penang: 20s. weight, 20s. meat. To Batavia Samarang, and Sourabaya: 20s. to 25s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meat. To Colombo: 25s. weight, 22s. 6d. meat.

The current quotations for coal, &c., are as follows:—From Wear or Tyne, per keel—To Yokohama: £30. To Shanghai: £30. To Hong Kong: £25. To Singapore: £23. To Penang: £23. To Colombo: £20. To Galle: £18. To Batavia and Sourabaya: £19.

From Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, per ton.—To Yokohama: 30s. To Shanghai: 31s. To Hong Kong: 28s. To Manila: 25s. To Singapore: 21s. To Colombo: 20s. To Galle: 22s. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 23s.

From Birkenhead, per ton.—To Hong Kong: 22s. 6d. To Shanghai: 25s. To Singapore: 16s. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 18s. To Galle: 4s.

INSURANCE.

	Mails.			First-class steamer.			Sailing.		
	In Tar.	In Tin.	F.P.a.	In Tar.	In Tin.	F.P.a.	In Tin.	F.P.a.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
Penang.....	25 0 ...	17 6	15 0	35 0	23 6	20 0	27 6 ...	25	
Singapore.....			to 17 6	to	to				
Colombo.....	35 0 ...	27 6	25 0	40 0	27 6	25 0	40 0 ...	35	
Hong Kong.....				45 0	32 6	25 0			
						to 30 0			
Shanghai.....	40 0	32 6	30 0	50 0	37 6	30 0	45	40 C	
		to 35 0			to 40 0				
Yokohama.....	40 0	32 6	30 0	60 C	42 6	40 0	45		
		to 35 0			0				

CASUALTIES.

MILFORD.—Feb. 21, the G. B. S. James, from Liverpool for Singapore, has put in with cargo shifted, and having carried away steering apparatus and lost several sails.

QUEENSTOWN.—Feb. 19, the Granite City, Ellis, arrived here from Samarang, has lost upper maintop-sail-yard.

HAVRE.—Feb. 19, the Faith, Lloyd, arrived here from Bezoekie, reports having experienced a succession of heavy gales whilst off the Cape of Good Hope, the vessel having on one occasion been thrown on her beam ends, when two lower topsails had to be cut away; the decks were also swept of everything movable.

ST. HELENA.—Jan. 29, the Hypatia, Olive, arrived here from Zebu, for Channel, reports:—From the meridian of Mauritius to that of the Cape of Good Hope, for a period of six weeks, encountered a succession of heavy westerly gales, smashing bulwarks, splitting and destroying several sails, washing overboard a quantity of articles from the decks, and carrying away maintopgallantmast.

BATAVIA.—Feb. 22, the Ireshope, ship, M Derwain, from Newcastle (coal), for Singapore, took fire at Anjer; was towed to Bantaw and run ashore, and has been abandoned to the underwriters.

The Barbara Taylor, schooner, from Bangkok for Cheribon (rice), has arrived here, having been ashore, and after having jettisoned a portion of cargo; vessel is tight, and will proceed to Singapore for repairs.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PORTSMOUTH.—Feb. 16, a case, marked "F.B., 2,492, collodion, Yokohama," and containing collodion in glass bottles, was picked up about twenty miles off the Isle of Wight by the fishing lugger Alice and Rebecca, No. 164, of Rye, and handed over to the Receiver of Wreck this day. The case, apparently, has been but a short time in the water.

LIVERPOOL.—Feb. 17, the Alice Ritson, barque, arrived here from Singapore, in proceeding towards the Canning Dock, grounded, and remained about half an hour, when she was towed off apparently without damage.

ST. HELENA, JAN. 29.—Arrived and proceeded, 10, Margaret Pugh, Akyab, for Falmouth; 12, Ellen Francis D., Probolinggo, for New York; Novereign, Singapore, for London; Batavia, Batavia, for Amsterdam; 13, Sophie D., Saigon, for Marseilles; Dreadnought, Maulmain, for London; 14, Martha Brockelman, Hong Kong, for London; 16, Bethany, Hong Kong, for New York; Undaunted, Maulmain, for Amsterdam; Hypatia, Zebu, for Falmouth; 17, Miako, Samarang, for Falmouth; 18, Willem van Name, Hong Kong, for New York; Joachim Christian, Hong Kong; 19, Janet, Swatow, both for London; 22, Albuera, Manila, for New York; Kitty, Batavia, for Amsterdam; Astrea, Macassar, for Amsterdam; T. F. Whitton, Probolinggo, or Boston; 25, Lieut.-Gen. v. Swieten, Batavia, for Rotterdam; Antipodes, Hong Kong, for Hamburg; Johanna, Manila, for New York; St. Kilda, Batavia, for Falmouth; Singapore, Macassar, for New York; Roma, Akyab, for Falmouth; Teodora, Manila, for Liverpool; Annie Braginton, Mantura, both from Swatow, for London; Richard Green, Batavia, for Falmouth; Kosmopoliet III., Batavia, for Rotterdam; 28, Liberaal, Batavia, for Rotterdam; Loyola, Manila, for Cadiz; Sir Jamsetjee Family, Manila, for London. Passed, Jan. 9, Corona, Manila, for London; 13, Johanna Maria, Banjoewangie, for Rotterdam; 18, Ary Scheffer, Samarang, for Amsterdam; Halloween, Shanghai, for London; Joseph Haydn, Philippines for Falmouth; 21, Alice Reed, Batavia, for Falmouth; Alblaserdam, Samarang, for Rotterdam; 23, Trinidad, Java, for Cork. The Univers, French barque, after effecting some slight repairs, sailed for London on Jan. 18. A bottomry bond for £534 at 20 per cent. was given in

payment of interest. 1,601 bags rice have been landed from the Brescia, of which 866, being damaged, were sold by public auction on Jan. 25, according to recommendation of surveyors; the vessel is now repairing. The Queen sailed for Hamburg on Jan. 25, having undergone certain repairs here; previous to her departure notices were issued inviting tenders to advance the sum of about £575 on bottomry in payment of expenses.

TABLE BAY.—Sailed, Jan. 16, Dorothea, Ludovic and Charles, both for Guam.

PORT ELIZABETH.—Jan. 19, the Amore has almost finished her repairs, and the master has advertised for a loan of £1,200, more or less, on bottomry and respondentia, to defray expenses.

MOSEL BAY.—Sailed, Jan. 16, Dione, for Batavia.

NATAL.—Jan. 4, sailed, Dec. 30, Jane Rowland, for Guam. The Compagnia Generale (Italian), from Batavia for Falmouth, which put in here Dec. 12 with damage, has completed her repairs, and proceeded to-day.

BATAVIA.—Feb. 22, the Thomas Fletcher, from Java for Australia, put into Banjoewangie leaky; surveyors recommend that this vessel be docked for examination of bottom, and be remodelled and calked throughout. The repairs of the Jedo will cost more than the vessel is worth.

SAIGON.—Feb. 16, the Kulaja, previously reported in collision, is severely damaged; she is cut down to the water's edge, and will have to dock for repairs, the cost of which is estimated at about \$15,000.

GENERAL SHIPPING NEWS.

SINGULAR DISCOVERY OF SHIPWRECKED FISHERMEN.—Application has been made to the Thames Police magistrate by Captain Adams, of the ship Corea. Captain Adams stated that he left China on his voyage home in September last. When about 200 miles from land, the vessel then being in the China Seas, about 14½ latitude and 118 east longitude, he fell in with a boat containing two men, who were in an almost dying condition from the combined effects of hunger and thirst. He took them on board and gave them food, which they ate ravenously. He had no opportunity of putting them on shore, and had brought them to England with him. He did not know what countrymen they were, as their language was unintelligible, but he believed they were natives of Cochin China. Since they had been on board they had managed to tell the sailors—by signs—that they had been out in their boat fishing, had fallen asleep, and had drifted out to the distance he had found them. Since his vessel arrived he had been trying to find some home where the men might be sent for a time, with a view to their being taken back to their own country. He had, however, not succeeded, as nobody seemed to care to have anything to do with the poor fellows. The magistrate told Captain Adams that he was worthy of much commendation for the humanity he had shown to the men. They remain by the ship for a day or two, after which they will be taken to the Strangers' Home, and there remain until a ship can be found to convey them to their native home.

SUSPENSION OF A CAPTAIN'S CERTIFICATE.—A Board of Trade inquiry into the abandonment and loss of the ship Golden Age, of South Shields, off Terschelling, was concluded on the 14th inst., at South Shields, after three days' sitting. There were seven charges against the captain, Frederick Cornish Quick. The Court considered the captain in default—first, for altering the course, which led to the ship's stranding; and, secondly, for prematurely abandoning the vessel after the stranding. The Court considered that Captain Quick merited severe reprehension, and ordered his certificate to be suspended for twelve calendar months.

A SEAMAN'S WAGES.—Captain Sproule, of the ship Eme, has been summoned by Frederick Louis, able seaman, for £28 8s. 5d. wages, alleged to have been earned during a voyage from Liverpool to China, Japan, and back to London. The principal point at issue was under the heading "Cash and sundries," which the complainant was alleged to have received during the progress of the voyage, and this having been investigated, the summons was withdrawn.

THE clipper ship Albania, Captain Seely, from Calcutta to Dundee, laden with 2,000 tons of jute, has been wrecked one mile south of Cape Grisez. Two men who attempted to escape in a boat were drowned. The rest of the crew, twenty-four in number, landed at low water by means of lines. The captain hopes to get the vessel off when she is lightened, but fine weather is indispensable for success.

THE fine new steamer Loudoun Castle, the latest addition to Messrs. Thos. Skinner and Co.'s Castle line of packets, arrived at Port Said on the morning of the 18th inst., after a passage of ten days and eighteen hours from Gravesend.

THE John O'Gaunt, from Liverpool to Manila, recently lost at Samar, Philippine Group, was a wooden ship of 859 tons, 177½ feet long and 32 feet wide. She was built at Whitehaven in 1855, classed A1 at Lloyd's, and owned by Mr. W. T. Bell, of Liverpool.

THE Argentinio, Capt. Barnett, which left on the 24th inst. for the Straits, China, and Japan, has been chartered by Messrs. Matheson and Co., London, for local trade between Japan and China.

THE Nederland Company's steamship Java sailed from Southampton on the 21st inst. for Batavia, with mails, passengers, £10,000 in English and £41,000 in Dutch specie, and a full cargo.

SINCE the year opened, twenty ships, of 14,000 tons aggregate tonnage, of the value, including cargo, of £335,000, and carrying 275 sailors, have been posted at Lloyd's.

LAUNCH.

Ox the 17th inst. there was launched from the yard of Messrs. Caird and Co., Greenock, a new screw steamer, built to the order of the Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company. Her dimensions are:—Length over all, 263 feet 9 inches (286 feet b.o.m.); length of keel and forerake, 255 feet 6 inches; breadth moulded, 32 feet; depth moulded, 26 feet; depth of hold, 17 feet 3 inches. She is an awning-decked screw steamer, having her sides partly open for ventilation, and is to be fitted up with engines of 200-horse power. She was named Tambora, and is intended for the Java trade.

HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Capital, \$5,000,000. All paid up.
Reserve Fund, \$500,000.
COURT OF DIRECTORS AND HEAD OFFICE IN HONG KONG.

LONDON COMMITTEE.
Albert Deacon, Esq. (of Messrs. E. and A. Deacon).
P. F. Dunne, Esq. (of Messrs. A. Gibb and Co.).
A. H. Phillips, Esq. (of Messrs. J. & Co.).
MANAGERS—David McLean, 31, Lombard-street, E.C.
BANKERS—London and County Bank.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.
Hong Kong Hankow Saigon
Shanghai Yokohama Singapore
Foochow Hioho Bombay
Ningpo Manila Calcutta

The Corporation grant Drafts upon, and negotiate or collect Bills at any of the Branches or Agencies; also receive Deposits for fixed periods, at rates varying with the period of deposit.

The Corporation issue Letters of Credit and Circular Notes, negotiable in the principal cities of Europe, Asia, and America for the use of travellers.

They open Current Accounts for the convenience of constituents returning from China, Japan, and India.

They also undertake the Agency of constituents connected with the East, and receive for safe custody Indian and other Government Securities, drawing Interest and Dividends on the same as they fall due.

Dividends are payable in London in April and October, on receipt of the advice of meeting in Hong Kong, held in February and August.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, August 30, 1851.
PAID-UP CAPITAL, £1,500,000.
RESERVE FUNDS, £500,000.

The Corporation grant Drafts, and negotiate or collect Bills payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo, Foochow, Hioho, Hong Kong, Kanly, Madras, Mauritius, Melbourne, Point de Galle, Port Elizabeth, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Tellicherry, and Yokohama on terms which may be ascertained at their Office. They also issue Circular Notes for the use of Travellers by the Overland Route.

They undertake the agency of parties connected with India and the Colonies, the purchase and sale of British and Foreign Securities, the custody of the same, the receipt of Interest, Dividends, Pay, Pensions, &c., and the effecting of remittances between the above-named Dependencies.

They also receive deposits of £100 and upwards for fixed periods, the terms for which may be ascertained on application at their Office.

Office hours. Ten to Three; Saturdays, Ten to Two. Threadneedle-street London, 1877.

COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

Incorporated by National Decrees of 7th and 8th of March, 1848, and by Imperial Decrees of 30th July, 18th and 31st December, 1866.

Recognised by the International Convention of 30th April, 1863.

Capital, fully paid up... £3,000,000
Reserve fund... 800,000

CHIEF MANAGER.—Monsr. G. Girod.
HEAD OFFICE.—14, Rue Bergere, Paris.

LONDON OFFICE.—144, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
LONDON BANKERS.—The Bank of England, the Union Bank of London.

BRANCHES AT—Lyons, Marseilles, Nantes (France), Brussels (Belgium), Calcutta, Bombay, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Bourbon (Reunion), and Yokohama (Japan).

The Bank grants Drafts and Letters of Credit on all their Branches and Correspondents on the Continent and the East, and transacts Banking business of every description.

THE AGRA BANK (Limited).

Established in 1833.
CAPITAL, £1,000,000.

Head Office.—NICHOLAS LANK, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON.

Branches in Edinburgh, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong.

Current accounts are kept at the Head Office on the terms customary with London Bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received for fixed periods on the following terms, viz.:—At 5 per cent. per annum, subject to twelve months' notice of withdrawal. For shorter periods deposits will be received on terms to be agreed upon. Bills issued at the current exchange of the day on any of the Branches of the Bank free of extra charge; and approved bills purchased or sent for collection. Sales and purchases effected in British and Foreign Securities, in East India Stock and Loans, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Interest drawn, and Army, Navy, and Civil Pay and Pensions realised. Every other description of Banking Business and Money Agency, British and Indian, transacted.

J. THOMSON, Chairman.

BANK OF CALIFORNIA.—THE

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION are prepared to ISSUE DRAFTS at sight on the Bank of California, San Francisco, the terms for which may be ascertained at their Office.

Threadneedle-street, 187

PARIS.—EDUCATION.

THE ESTABLISHMENT of Mlle DERICQUEHEM is situated at 10, Rue Denours, near the Champs Elysee, and can be recommended by parent from India, China, and Japan. Terms, £80 to £100.

CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S

CELEBRATED OILMENS' STORES

FIVE PRIZE MEDALS PARIS AND VIENNA.

PICKLES AND SAUCES, JAMS AND JELLIES, ORANGE MARMALADE, TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS, MUSTARD, VINEGAR,

FRUITS IN BRANDY AND NOYEAU, POTTED MEATS AND FISH, FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS, HERRINGS A LA SARDINE, PICKLED SALMON,

YARMOUTH BLOATERS, BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT, FRESH AND FINE DADDYDOCKS, PURE SAID OIL,

SOUPS, IN PINT AND QUART TINS, PRESERVED VEGETABLES, PRESERVED HAM AND CHEESE, PRESERVED BACON,

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGE, BOLOGNA SAUSAGES, YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES, TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY, PLUM PUDDINGS,

LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE. Fresh supplies of the above and numerous other table delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.

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For Passage, Rates of Freight, and Particulars see the Company's handbook, and apply at the Company's London Head Office, 97, Cannon-street, E.C.; or at the West End Sub-Agency, 51, Pall-mall, S.W.

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MADURA, 2,600 tons, March 20.

PRINSEN AMALIA, 3,500 tons, April 10.

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Ditto	Mikado, s.s. vi. S. Canal	100 A1	1993	S.W.I.	April 10
Hong Kong	Scindia	*A1	594	S.W.I.	With des
Hong Kong	Melbrek	A1 15 yr.	870	S.W.I.	To follow
Hong Kong	A ship	100 A1	1008	S.W.I.	To follow
Hong Kong	Ripper	100 A1	1008	S.W.I.	To follow
Shanghai	Sir Lancelot	A1 16 yr.	847	S.W.I.	With des
Shanghai	Corea	A1 14 yr.	581	S.W.I.	To follow

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Glencares	100 A1	2,400	530	Mar. 7
Glenfinlas	100 A1	2,120	330	To follow
Glenorchy	100 A1	2,788	400	To follow
Glenzie	100 A1	1,676	200	To follow
Glenfalloch	100 A1	2,126	275	To follow
Glenur	100 A1	2,121	250	To follow
State of Louisiana	100 A1	1,869	240	To follow
Glenartney	100 A1	2,106	330	To follow
Glenlyon	100 A1	2,119	275	To follow

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Ports.	Ship.	Class.	Tons.	Dock.	Sailing.
Pen., Sing., Hong Kong, Yokohama, and Higo	Elgin	100 A1	1390	V.I.D.	Mar. 5

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Yokohama & Higo	Sir William Wallace	A1 11 yr.	S.W.I.	With des.
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Hong Kong	James Shephard	A1 14 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
Hong Kong	Winko	A1 16 yr.	E.L.D.	To follow

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